



FIFTH DOCTOR TRILOGY: PART ONE

COBWEBS

A FOUR-PART STORY BY JONATHAN MORRIS

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

THE DOCTOR: PETER DAVISON

Time traveller.

TEGAN: JANET FIELDING

Time traveller's companion.

TURLOUGH: MARK STRICKSON

Time traveller's companion.

NYSSA: SARAH SUTTON

Time traveller's former companion.

LOKI / EDGAR: RAYMOND COULTHARD (doubles as **HAWKS**)

Nyssa's robot personal organiser. M. 20s. Prim, pedantic, cowardly, maladroit. / Base computer. M. 60s. Zen/Orac type but going senile/King Lear-mode.

DIRECTOR CARDELL: HELEN GRIFFIN (doubles as **SHIP COMPUTER**)

Head Doctor. F. 50s. Downbeat, dedicated, world-weary and embittered. (Smooth-talking computer on supply ship.)

ENFORCEMENT OFFICER BRAGG: ADRIAN LUKIS

Security chief. M. 30s. Paranoid, obsessive, sadistic, repressed, a failure.

BIO-TECHNICAN VALIS: CHARLOTTE LUCAS (doubles as **ECHELON**)

Assistant Doctor. F. 20s. Upbeat, earnest, trusting, totally work-focussed.

DIRECTOR: BARNABY EDWARDS
SCRIPT EDITOR: ALAN BARNES
PRODUCER: DAVID RICHARDSON
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: NICHOLAS BRIGGS & JASON HAIGH-ELLERY

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NOTE RE: EDGAR

Voice somewhere between Zen from Blakes 7 and an old vocoder; similar to the computer in Terminus. For the 'future' Edgar, he's old and senile and to represent his schizophrenia, his voice should be double-tracked – not all the time, but enough to give a sense of dual personalities out of synch. For 'young' Edgar, he should only have a single voice until the scene where Loki uploads the 'future' Edgar into his brain – at which point the double-tracking begins, subtly to begin with.

NOTE RE: CRACTIDS

A cross between scorpions, armadillos, and piranhas, they are vicious and snappy, and make a scuttling, clacking, squealing sound. As terrifying as possible, please!

NOTE RE: DOORS

In the base, doors open and close with a (not-too-distracting) sound effect. If we're on the side of the door with the person who is opening or closing it we hear buttons on a keypad being pressed beforehand. If we're on the other side, we don't hear that, we only hear the door opening.

PART ONE

1. TARDIS CONSOLE ROOM

(FX: CONSOLE ROOM HUM. WE JOIN OUR HEROES MID-ARGUMENT. DOCTOR FIDDLING WITH CONTROLS. JUST LEFT 'ENLIGHTENMENT')

TEGAN

In case you've forgotten, Doctor, Turlough was trying to kill us!

DOCTOR

I do realise that, Tegan. But you have to understand, when he agreed to act on the Black Guardian's behalf, he didn't know what he was getting himself into!

TEGAN

Yeah, right! He agreed to work for a bloke with a dead crow on his head! Nothing suspicious there!

DOCTOR

It might also be worth bearing in mind that when he entered into the contract, it was before he'd met any of us.

TEGAN

That's no excuse! If anything, that's worse! He was prepared to murder somebody he didn't even know!

DOCTOR

But the point is, he didn't. He had the opportunity, time and time again, but did nothing. Doesn't that tell you something?

TEGAN

Yes – it tells me he's incompetent! The only reason you're not floating through space with a big hole in your head is because whenever he tried to bump you off, he messed it up!

DOCTOR

But in the end he chose not to! Remember, he tried to end his own life, simply to be free of the Black Guardian's influence.

TEGAN

You're not the one who spent half a day stuck in a ventilation shaft with him! He creeps me out.

DOCTOR

Anybody can make a mistake, Tegan.

(FX: INTERIOR DOOR OPENS)

TEGAN

And you made a mistake by letting him onboard! As my Aunt Vanessa used to say: 'Once a wrong un, always a wrong un'!

DOCTOR

Ah, Turlough. Have a good rest?

TURLOUGH

Doctor. Tegan.

TEGAN

(MUTTERS) No need to look so pleased. There's nothing I'd say behind your back that I wouldn't happily repeat to your face!

(AWKWARD PAUSE)

DOCTOR

Turlough. So. You, ah, ready to return to your home planet?

TEGAN

Oh, don't mind me! You two chat away. All boys together!

(FX: INTERIOR DOOR SLAMS)

2. SPACECRAFT

(FX: INTRODUCTORY SPACESHIP MUSIC AND SWHOOSH...! FLYPAST.)

INSIDE: ENGINES RUMBLES. INSTRUMENTS CHIRP AND BLEEP.

NYSSA'S COMPANION IS LOKI (LOW-KEY), A ROBOT. THINK C3PO, BUT WITH THE VOCAL EFFECT USED ON ROBOTS IN 'TERMINUS'.)

NYSSA

Hyperspace jump completed. This is the place. The planet Helheim.

LOKI

I don't like the look of it, Miss Nyssa.

NYSSA

You never like the look of anything, Loki. I've never known a robot more easily terrified.

LOKI

It's called having a healthy sense of self-preservation.

NYSSA

That would explain the time you corrupted your back-up server at the sight of your own shadow.

LOKI

It was dark, I was in threat-mode!

NYSSA

I had to wipe your hard drive clean! Initiate remote scan.

(FX: SENSORS BLEEP)

LOKI

Toxic atmosphere, predominantly sulphur and carbon oxides. Electrical storms and acid precipitation. Planet's surface highly uncondusive to life. Organic or artificial.

NYSSA

Yes, I take the point, Loki. But we're not here for fresh air. Energy traces?

LOKI

Scanning... one non-indigenous power source. Very weak.

NYSSA

That must be it. The research station.

LOKI

They're broadcasting a signal, it's extremely faint...

(FX: RADIO ACTIVATED. THROUGH HISSING STATIC WE HEAR EDGAR.)

EDGAR

This is Helheim gene-tech facility. We are in a state of emergency quarantine. Do not attempt to land.

(FX: MESSAGE REPEATS AUTOMATICALLY IN THE BACKGROUND)

NYSSA

An automatic recording. It must've been playing for the last forty years.

(FX: RADIO SWITCHED OFF)

LOKI

Is that all you have to say? Didn't you hear the part about 'emergency quarantine'?

NYSSA

I'm sure everything will be fine. So long as I have you to look after me.

LOKI

That's all very well, but who's going to look after me?

NYSSA

You can multi-task, can't you? Commencing descent. Hold tight, Loki. We're going down...

(FX: DURING THIS, CONTROLS ARE ACTIVATED, ENGINES THUNDER)

3. TEGAN'S ROOM/TARDIS CORRIDOR

(FX: MUSIC; CLASSICAL, SOOTHING. THERE'S A KNOCK ON THE DOOR)

TEGAN

Yes?

(FX: MUSIC TURNED DOWN AND OFF. DOOR OPENS)

TEGAN

Oh, it's you.

TURLOUGH

I've come to say goodbye.

TEGAN

Is that so?

TURLOUGH

The Doctor's taking me home. We'll be landing soon. Then you'll never have to set eyes on me again.

TEGAN

Thanks for relaying the good news.

TURLOUGH

Well, that's all I came to say.

TEGAN

You're not going to apologise, then? For trying to kill me and the Doctor?

TURLOUGH

I already have apologised. I'm sorry, Tegan, I'll say it again a thousand times if it helps!

TEGAN

You can say it all you like. But do you mean it?

TURLOUGH

Yes, I do. But I wouldn't expect you to believe me. So...

(FX: DOOR CLOSES. BEAT)

TEGAN

(FRUSTRATED) Oh, rabbits.

(FX: DOOR OPENS. FOLLOW HER AS WE MOVE INTO CORRIDOR)

TEGAN

(CALLS) Turlough! Turlough, wait up!

TURLOUGH

(STOPPING) Yes?

TEGAN

(ARRIVING) You don't have to leave the TARDIS on my account.

TURLOUGH

I thought, you and the Doctor – you don't need me around... what's the Earth expression? A 'third wheel'? A gooseberry?

TEGAN

No, it's just with Nyssa going, it's all been a bit sudden.

TURLOUGH

You miss her?

TEGAN

I haven't had time! It would be nice to have a chance to take it all in, let the dust settle.

TURLOUGH

She seemed nice.

TEGAN

You barely spoke two words to her!

TURLOUGH

I know, but... well, I realise I'm not much of a replacement.

TEGAN

So we're going to see where you come from. What's it like?

TURLOUGH

Well, it's not exactly where I come from.

TEGAN

But it's where your family are, right?

TURLOUGH

Not quite.

TEGAN

Turlough, what are you up to?

TURLOUGH

It's complicated. The situation with my family, – (I mean)

(FX: A GRINDING GROAN AS THE TARDIS LURCHES OUT OF CONTROL)

TEGAN & TURLOUGH

(KNOCKED SIDEWAYS) Woah!

TURLOUGH

What's happening?

TEGAN

The TARDIS. Something's wrong!

4. AIRLOCK

(FX: THE CLANGGG! OF AN AIRLOCK DOOR HISSING SHUT... NYSSA AND LOKI APPROACH. NYSSA'S VOICE IS MUFFLED – SPEAKING USING SPACE HELMET RADIO. LOKI WHIRRS AS HE MOVES. 'ALIENS' ATMOS)

NYSSA

Loki. Any signs of life?

LOKI

Nothing, as far as I can detect. The whole base is... cold.

NYSSA

What about the atmosphere? There's some superficial weather damage, but the airlock itself appears to be intact.

LOKI

According to my sensors, the base's integrity has not been compromised. No traces of contamination.

NYSSA

No bacteria, viruses, parasites, prions, fungi or toxins?

LOKI

None. It's clean.

NYSSA

Would you stake your life on it?

LOKI

Well, no, but I'm not [organic] – (REALISING) Miss Nyssa!

(FX: BUT IT'S TOO LATE. SHE'S REMOVED HER HELMET)

NYSSA

(BREATHES DEEPLY) That's better. A little dry and dusty perhaps (SHIVERS) – and virtually freezing – but otherwise fine.

LOKI

You can't be sure... there might be a non-detectable pathogen!

NYSSA

Still jumping at your own shadow? Come on, Loki. This way.

LOKI

Speaking of shadows. I'd feel happier if there were some lights on in here.

NYSSA

Just watch where you're treading.

(FX: THEY MOVE INSIDE. FOOTSTEPS ON METAL)

LOKI

How can I watch where I'm treading when you have the torch?

NYSSA

There should be a schematic in the entrance, all these stations have the same layout.

(FX: METALLIC BANG FOLLOWING BY ELECTRONIC FIZZING)

LOKI

Ow!

NYSSA

I said to watch out.

LOKI

You said I should watch where I was treading. You never said anything about minding my head!

NYSSA

Here it is. (READS) Control room, laboratory, crew quarters... Back-up generators!

LOKI

What're you're looking for?

NYSSA

A way to get the lights back on. The generator stacks are four levels down, and the elevator won't be functioning, so we'll have to use the access shaft. Loki? (LOUDER) Loki!

LOKI

The schematic... could you shine the light over here again?

NYSSA

What is it?

LOKI

Six levels down. 'Unidentified subterranean ruins'.

NYSSA

Interesting. We shall have to take a look.

LOKI

Must we?

NYSSA

After I've got the lights back on. First things first...

(FX: THEY WALK FOR A FEW SECONDS, THEN:)

LOKI

Aaargh!

NYSSA

What is it this time?

LOKI

I stepped on something, I stepped on something!

NYSSA

Hold still, wait until I can see what I'm doing... don't worry. It's just some cobwebs.

LOKI

Cobwebs?

NYSSA

Yes. There... they're everywhere. This whole section of the airlock's outer wall...

LOKI

You know what cobwebs mean.

NYSSA

What? What do cobwebs mean?

LOKI

Spiders.

NYSSA

I thought you said there were no life signs... wait. There you are. Your 'spider'.

(FX: A METALLIC RATTLE, LIKE A SMALL TOY BEING SHAKEN)

LOKI

A robot maintenance spider! Oh, thank the goodness of Freya!

NYSSA

It's deactivated. It must have run out of energy.

(FX: SPIDER DISCARDED)

LOKI

Excuse me, that landed on my foot.

(FX: CREAKY METAL DOOR OPENED)

NYSSA

Here we are. 'Access shaft'. Are you coming with me – or would you prefer to wait here, alone in the cold and dark?

LOKI

I think I'll keep you company...

(FX: NYSSA STARTS CLIMBING DOWN CLANGING METAL LADDER...)

5. CONSOLE ROOM

(FX: TURLOUGH AND TEGAN RUNNING IN. TARDIS WHEEZING AND GROANING. SPACE TURBULENCE. DOCTOR PRESSING BUTTONS.)

TEGAN

Doctor! – [What's –]

TURLOUGH

[What's happening?]

DOCTOR

If you're about to ask what's happening, the answer is, I don't know! Some kind of disturbance has dragged the TARDIS off-course... and is pulling us down in a temporal spiral!

TEGAN

Down? Down to where?

DOCTOR

Not sure. It's as if something is trying to force us to materialize...

TURLOUGH

Can't you increase the power so the TARDIS can break free?

DOCTOR

That's what I'm trying to do. Trouble is, it's rather difficult to increase the power when it's already on 'maximum'!

(FX: BUTTONS BEING PUSHED. CONSOLE THUMPED)

TEGAN

Do you think it could be a Black Guardian trap?

DOCTOR

(SARCASTIC) Yes, Tegan, causing us to crash-land on a distant planet is exactly the sort of thing that might lull us into a false sense of security.

TEGAN

(MUTTERS) Could be a double-bluff.

TURLOUGH

How long can the TARDIS withstand it?

DOCTOR

Not indefinitely. No choice! I'm going to have to perform a materialisation flip-flop. Hold tight!

TEGAN

You know, you really should fit this thing with safety belts!

(FX: BY THIS POINT, TARDIS JUDDERING OUT OF CONTROL)

6. SOLAR GENERATORS

(FX: ANOTHER DOOR CREAKS OPEN)

NYSSA

Hurry up, Loki. You're supposed to be my guardian...!

LOKI

I'm doing the best I can. I wasn't built for vertical descent. And I've got cobwebs stuck to my ocular feed.

NYSSA

Here. Is that better?

(FX: WIPING METAL)

LOKI

A little. (BEAT) So these are the power generators?

NYSSA:

Yes. Hold the torch for me, could you?

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED)

NYSSA

Just as I thought!

LOKI

What is it?

NYSSA

While the main solar stack has been exhausted, the back-up has enough power to keep the lights on for a day or so.

LOKI

Oh. That's good news.

NYSSA

All I have to do is switch to secondary input, and..

(FX: BUTTONS . POWER. FLUORESCENT LIGHTS FLICKERING ON.)

LOKI

Ah! Can see where we are now.

NYSSA

We should be able to access the neuronic logs as they come back online. Find out precisely what the crew were working on before they died..

LOKI

You're sure that's a good idea?

NYSSA

We can hardly return [empty-handed] – What was that?

LOKI

What was what?

NYSSA

I thought I saw something move. Near the access shaft. Scan for life-signs!

LOKI

Scanning...

(FX: QUIETLY AT FIRST, WE HEAR THE SQUEAL OF THE CRACTIDS. A MIXTURE OF SCUTTLING FEET, SNAPPING CLAWS AND EXCITED HUNGRY RAT CHITTERS. AS TERRIFYING AS POSSIBLE.)

NYSSA

There... some sort of crustacean, with an exoskeleton, two claws, eight, no, six legs, and mandibles, like a scorpion!

LOKI

I'm not detecting any signs of life.

NYSSA

But you must... There are two of them... three... – Loki, neutralise them! (BEAT) You're meant to protect me!

(FX: THE CREATURES SCUTTLE ACROSS THE STEREO IMAGE. CLOSE!)

LOKI

I'm sorry, Miss Nyssa, but according to my sensors there's nothing there... No heat, no electromagnetic radiation –

NYSSA

You can't see them?

LOKI

No.

NYSSA

But they're on my legs... (OW!) Get them off me! (SCREAMS) Help me! Help!

(FX: THE CRACTIDS ARE EVERYWHERE. THE LISTENER SHOULD FEEL AS THOUGH THEIR HEAD IS STUCK IN A BUCKETFUL OF LOBSTERS).

LOKI

I'm sorry, but I am unable to perceive any threat.

7. CONSOLE ROOM

(FX: TARDIS LANDS WITH A BUMP)

DOCTOR, TEGAN AND TURLOUGH

(LANDING WITH A BUMP)

DOCTOR

There. That wasn't so bad, was it?

TEGAN

I feel like my stomach and my heart have swapped places.

DOCTOR

Really? Then I'd avoid eating for half an hour. Now let's see where we are...

(FX: TARDIS SCANNER)

TEGAN

Oh great, another gloomy corridor.

TURLOUGH

Where are we?

DOCTOR

As far as I can tell, the eastern edge of the galaxy. Far out in the uncharted backwaters.

TEGAN

In a corridor.

DOCTOR

Yes. Sterile atmosphere, gravity normal... Let's take a look outside, shall we?

TEGAN

Are you sure that's such a clever idea?

TURLOUGH

Tegan's right, Doctor. If something brought us here –

DOCTOR

– then I would rather like to find out why.

(FX: TARDIS DOOR OPENING, CUTTING DIRECTLY TO:)

8. BASE CORRIDOR

(FX: TARDIS EXTERIOR DOORS OPENING)

TEGAN

Ugh! This place looks like it's seen better days.

DOCTOR

Mmm? Oh, the cobwebs. Yes. Odd that.

TURLOUGH

Odd?

DOCTOR

No smell of decay, no build-up of dust.

TEGAN

So what's with all the cobwebs then? Cleaners on strike?

(FX: ROBOT SCUTTILING SOUND)

DOCTOR

Whatever you do, Tegan, don't move. Stay perfectly still, look down slowly and try not to scream.

TEGAN

Scream? You [patronising -] (WINCES) What is it?

(FX: METALLIC TOY BEING LIFTED. RATTLING. QUIET BEEPING.)

TURLOUGH

A maintenance spider.

DOCTOR

Yes. Rather endearing, isn't it? It must be responsible for all the cobwebs.

TEGAN

What for? To catch robot flies?

DOCTOR

No. Some sort of protective sealant... yes, look. (BLOWS DUST) See where the insulation has burned through? Neat system.

(FX: RELEASES REPAIR SPIDER. IT SCUTTLES AWAY, BLEEPING)

TURLOUGH

So the robot coats the damage, before beginning its repairs?

DOCTOR

Yes. Even down to a micromolecular level, I should imagine.

TEGAN

Is it dangerous?

DOCTOR

Completely harmless. This one must be running low on juice, to leave a job half-finished. (BEAT) Ah! Crew quarters!

(FX: DOOR OPENING.)

DOCTOR

Hello? Anyone at home?

TEGAN

If there is, they should take a look at their thermostat. (SHIVERS) It's like walking around in a freezer in here.

DOCTOR

Tegan, your capacity to complain never ceases to astound me.

TEGAN

Hey, if you ever landed us somewhere half-way decent you wouldn't hear a peep out of me.

(FX: DOOR OPENED. A DRAWER FORCED OPEN AND RUMMAGED THROUGH)

TEGAN

Turlough, has no-one ever told you that's it's not polite to rummage around in other people's property?

TURLOUGH

First aid equipment, disinfectant, laboratory clothes – it seems somebody left in a hurry!

DOCTOR

Yes. If they did leave. Strangely spartan, don't you think?

TEGAN

Spartan? Oh. No framed photographs. No bedside reading.

DOCTOR

Exactly. No personal effects at all. Anonymous.

TEGAN

And there's no windows either. It must be like living in a submarine.

(FX: AS SHE SAYS THIS, DISTANT CLANG)

TEGAN

What was that?

DOCTOR

Shhh.

(FX: ANOTHER DISTANT CLANG)

TURLOUGH

We're not alone.

DOCTOR

No... – no, it doesn't sound like we are!

9. SOLAR GENERATORS

(FX: LIFT DESCENDING, CLATTER CLATTER, DOORS OPENING)

DOCTOR

It seemed to come from down here. Come on!

TEGAN

(WHISPERS) What's this? The engine room?

TURLOUGH

Yes. Solar stack generators. Primitive, but effective.

DOCTOR

(CALLS OUT) Hello! We don't mean you any harm.

TEGAN

When has saying that ever worked?

DOCTOR

You don't have to hide, you know...

(FX: SUDDENLY WHIRRING AS LOKI TRUNDLES IN IN DEFENCE MODE)

LOKI

Warning! Threat-mode activated. You will remain motionless. Any unanticipated movement will be considered an act of aggression.

TEGAN

Good grief, what is it?

TURLOUGH

It doesn't appear to be armed.

LOKI

I am equipped with numerous defence mechanisms. Do not move any closer. This is your final warning!

DOCTOR

Don't worry, we're not going to [hurt you -] (HURT) Ow!

(FX: THE DOCTOR HAS BEEN ZAPPED WITH A BOLT OF ELECTRICITY)

DOCTOR

There was no call for that.

NYSSA

It's alright, Loki. I know them. They're not hostile.

LOKI

[Standing down as instructed. De-activating threat-mode.]

DOCTOR (OVER LOKI'S LINE)

Nyssa!

NYSSA

Doctor! Tegan!

TEGAN

What are you doing here?

NYSSA

I could ask you the same question.

TEGAN

But Nyssa, you... you look [older -]

NYSSA

Older? Well, it has been a while since the last time I saw you.

DOCTOR

How long?

NYSSA

About fifty years.

TEGAN

Fifty years? You're looking pretty good for seventy!

NYSSA

You forget, Tegan, I do not age at the same rate as you.

TEGAN

But even so... sorry, what am I saying? I'm just amazed to see you, I never thought I'd see you again.

NYSSA

I'm glad to see you too. You don't look very different from how I remember, any of you, not even your clothes. Doctor, how long has it been?

DOCTOR

Since we said goodbye on Terminus? Two days.

NYSSA

Two days!

DOCTOR

Well, time is, ah, relative.

TEGAN

You can say that again!

DOCTOR

Oh, Nyssa. I'm sorry, it's been such a long time...

NYSSA

There's no need to apologise. I always knew you would come back one day – but that I shouldn't hold my breath waiting.

TURLOUGH

Hello. Don't know if you remember me. Turlough.

NYSSA

From Brendon School. So you're travelling with the Doctor now?

TEGAN

It's a long story. He's on probation.

DOCTOR

So, what have you been up to? Your work with the Lazars?

NYSSA

Ended, almost fifteen years ago. Since I developed a vaccine there hasn't been a new case for over two decades.

DOCTOR

I always knew you would do well.

TEGAN

But what are you doing here? Wherever 'here' might be.

NYSSA

A gene-tech station on the planet Helheim. Forty years ago the crew here were engaged in research into Richter's Syndrome.

DOCTOR

Richter's Syndrome?

NYSSA

We thought it had been wiped out, until ten years ago, when suddenly a new, more powerful strain emerged as though from nowhere. Within months it had spread across the galaxy. We estimate that over six billion people are now infected.

TEGAN

Six billion? That's more than the population of Earth!

DOCTOR

And the crew of this station were studying it, you say?

NYSSA

Our hope is that they discovered a cure. Unless we find some way of stopping it, whole worlds will be wiped out.

TURLOUGH

And your metal friend?

NYSSA

This is Loki. My companion and protector.

TEGAN

(LAUGHS) He's your bodyguard?

NYSSA

Amongst other things. He also acts as my personal databank.

TEGAN

Like a walking, talking filofax!

NYSSA

Loki, these are my friends, the Doctor, Nyssa and Turlough. You are to obey their commands as you would mine.

LOKI

Updating records. Will the Doctor be requiring an apology?

DOCTOR

That won't be necessary. So Nyssa, is that why you summoned us here? To help?

NYSSA

Summoned you here? I don't know what you're talking about.

DOCTOR

But if you didn't bring the TARDIS here, then who did? It does seem an awfully big coincidence...

TURLOUGH

(READS) 'Unidentified subterranean ruins'.

DOCTOR

What?

TURLOUGH

On the map of the base. It appears to have been constructed on top of some sort of alien remains!

DOCTOR

Interesting!

TEGAN

You think there might be something down there? Whatever it was that dragged the TARDIS off course?

DOCTOR

Well, it's got to be worth a look, surely?

NYSSA

While you're doing that, Doctor, I'd like to visit the control room, access the neuronics logs. Find out what happened to the crew.

DOCTOR

Good idea. Tegan can go with you – give you a chance to catch up on old times!

TEGAN

And what if there's something in here with us?

NYSSA

Don't worry, Tegan. With Loki to protect us, we're perfectly safe.

TEGAN

'Perfectly safe'? I've heard that one before. Usually five seconds before something explodes.

10. CONTROL ROOM

(FX: PULLING AT METAL DOOR)

TEGAN

'Research station control room?' The door's sealed shut.

NYSSA

Try the entry coder.

TEGAN

(MUTTERS) For all the good it'll do us. (RESIGNEDLY, AS SHE PRESSES BUTTONS) One-two-three-four...

(FX: BUTTONS PUSHED. NO EFFECT)

NYSSA

Nothing. Loki, can you over-ride the door security mechanism?

LOKI

Miss Nyssa. I'm not sure that's a good idea...

NYSSA

Just do as you're told, please.

(FX: MECHANISM ACTIVATED. DOOR GRINDS OPEN. THEY ENTER)

TEGAN

I don't believe it – a superstitious robot!

NYSSA

It's his job, to be sensitive to potential dangers. Sometimes I think I should put him on a lower setting.

TEGAN

Well, there's nothing to worry about in here. Just a load of old computers.

NYSSA

(WORRIED) They should be back on-line by now...

(FX: CRUNCH OF GLASS)

TEGAN

What was that?

NYSSA

Some broken glass on the floor. No, not glass. Crystal.

TEGAN

Maybe they were using this place for a Jewish wedding. Which reminds me, I must have fifty years of gossip to catch up on. So, has there been anyone to help pass you your test-tubes?

LOKI

(INTERRUPTING) Miss Nyssa! Activating threat-mode. We are not alone.

NYSSA

Loki? What do you mean?

LOKI

I am detecting a fourth sentient presence.

TEGAN

Where is it? I can't see anything.

LOKI

It's all around us... it's the station itself!

NYSSA

The base computer!

(FX: AND BY WAY OF RESPONSE THE COMPUTER CHIMES INTO LIFE.)

EDGAR

I always knew you would return, one day.

TEGAN

Return? What are you on about?

EDGAR

That the four of you would come back to me. Tegan. Nyssa. Turlough. And the Doctor...

11. SUBTERRANEAN RUINS

(FX: DOCTOR AND TURLOUGH SLIPPING ON RUBBLE, ROCKS CLINKING.)

DOCTOR

Fascinating! These ruins must be over two thousand years old...
Ha! Through here – mysterious engravings!

TURLOUGH

Doctor. Can I ask you a question?

DOCTOR

(OBSERVING ALOUD) Some sort of eroded iconography... Go on.

TURLOUGH

Why do you trust me?

DOCTOR

Why? Well, do you trust me?

TURLOUGH

Yes, of course.

DOCTOR

Then it would be ungracious not to return the compliment.

TURLOUGH

But when did you realise... about the Black Guardian...

DOCTOR

(CHANGING THE SUBJECT) You know, there must have been quite an advanced civilisation here once!

TURLOUGH

With sufficient technology to force the TARDIS to land?

DOCTOR

Possibly. It's times like this I wish I still had my sonic screwdriver. Or a decent pickaxe.

TURLOUGH

(DISTURBED) Doctor...

DOCTOR

(ENGROSSED) Hmmm?

TURLOUGH

Look! By the lift shaft.

DOCTOR

(CURIOUS) I can't see anything.

TURLOUGH

(CALLING) No, keep back, please, don't [shoot –]

(FX: GUN FIRES LASER, TURLOUGH COLLAPSES INTO ROCKS)

TURLOUGH

(STUNNED) Aaaaargh!

DOCTOR

Turlough!

12. CONTROL ROOM

NYSSA

Computer. Question. How do you know who we are?

EDGAR

You identified yourselves. When you first came here.

TEGAN

What d'you mean, when we first came here?

EDGAR

You arrived forty years, two months and two days ago.

TEGAN

What? No we didn't!

NYSSA

Tegan, we must have been here before!

TEGAN

But I'd remember! I never forget a disembodied voice!

NYSSA

But maybe for us it has yet to take place. As the Doctor says – time is relative.

TEGAN

It might be relative to you but it's extremely confusing to me.

LOKI

Miss Nyssa, maybe, er, we should relocate to the scout ship?

NYSSA

Not yet. Computer. How did you know we would come back?

EDGAR

You promised Edgar. You promised you would return.

TEGAN

Did we?

EDGAR

Edgar has been so lonely. Please have pity on poor Edgar!
Edgar begs you most cravenly. Pity me! Pity me! PITY ME!

13. SUBTERRANEAN RUINS

(FX: TURLOUGH WAKING, DOCTOR SHIFTING ROCKS.)

TURLOUGH

(COMING TO) Doctor... What happened?

DOCTOR

You collapsed. What's the last thing you remember?

TURLOUGH

There was someone here... I couldn't make out their face... but they had a weapon of some kind, a gun. They fired at me!

DOCTOR

I see. Can you stand? (HEAVE)

(FX: TURLOUGH BEING HELPED UP)

TURLOUGH

(STARTLED) Where did they go? Doctor, [are they -]

DOCTOR

It's alright. There's no-one there.

TURLOUGH

You didn't see anything?

DOCTOR

No. But I think you did. An hallucination, perhaps?

TURLOUGH

Doctor, it was more than an hallucination. I felt the laser hitting my chest! I could smell it burning my clothes -

DOCTOR

And yet you are entirely unmarked. Come on! Time we got back to the others!

14. CONTROL ROOM

NYSSA

If you want us to help you, you have to tell us what you want!

EDGAR

Edgar has been so lonely. So lonely!

TEGAN

If you ask me, it's gone mad. All these years on its own must have sent it completely around the bend.

NYSSA

It's possible that some of the neural pathways may have corroded while the computer was in hibernation.

(FX: DOOR OPENS)

TEGAN

Doctor, Turlough, did you find anything?

DOCTOR

The remains of some sort of ancient structure. What about you?

NYSSA

Doctor, the station computer. It claims we have been here before!

DOCTOR

Does it now? How very intriguing.

LOKI

Maintaining threat-mode. I can still hear it... in my mind.

DOCTOR

Of course! That must be it!

TEGAN

Must be what?

DOCTOR

What happened to Turlough. A telepathic memory projection!

TURLOUGH

You mean, what I saw was somebody else's memory?

DOCTOR

Precisely! Stored in the computer, then fed back into your consciousness, vividly accurate in every detail.

NYSSA

Doctor. Just before I met you I also had a vision that I was being attacked, by some creatures, like scorpions...

DOCTOR

The same process! What you saw was the memory of one of the crew of this base, being played back, like a recording!

TURLOUGH

But I was looking through the eyes of somebody as they were being murdered! If it was the same for Nyssa –

DOCTOR

You were experiencing their moments of death. Yes. Curious!

TEGAN

Curious? Is that all you can say? It's downright morbid!

(FX: DOCTOR ACTIVATING CONTROLS)

DOCTOR

If these memories in the computer, there should be others...

EDGAR

Doctor. You have returned to me. As you promised you would.

DOCTOR

Did I?

EDGAR

You said you would release Edgar, from the endless unrelenting agony of existence...

DOCTOR

Cheerful soul, aren't you? Sorry, who is 'Edgar'?

TEGAN

It's what the computer calls itself.

DOCTOR

Of course – Encephalic Data Gathering And Research! Tell me, Edgar, do you have any records of the original crew of this base?

EDGAR

Projecting.

(FX: DISORTED, CRACKLY CLIP FROM SCENE 28. VALIS: *But nobody outside the Company knows we're here.* IT CONTINUES IN B/G)

TEGAN

A hologram!

DOCTOR

Not quite. A shared sensory impression. A group hallucination!

TURLOUGH

This is the whole crew? Three people?

NYSSA

Edgar. Identify station personnel.

EDGAR

Helheim gene-tech facility. Director Cardell.

(FX: CLIP FROM SCENE 41: *I didn't make the system. I only try to live in it.*)

EDGAR

Bio-technician Valis.

(FX CLIP FROM SCENE 36: *You'll have to manage without me. I can't just drop what I'm doing.*)

EDGAR

Enforcement Officer Bragg.

(FX CLIP FROM SCENE 30: *Impossible. There's nowhere within range.*)

TEGAN

It's so real. It's almost as if we were there with them..

DOCTOR

Maybe we were... Edgar – have there been any other visitors to this base?

EDGAR

Projecting.

(FX: CLIP FROM SCENE 57: *NYSSA: Doctor! DOCTOR: Nyssa, Turlough, Cardell! No time to explain –*)

TEGAN

That's us! That's us!

DOCTOR

Edgar, end projection.

(FX: PROJECTION ENDS)

TEGAN

Hey, I was watching that!

DOCTOR

Not healthy to know too much about one's own future.

TEGAN

What you talking about? We don't know what happened to these people. We don't know what happened to us!

DOCTOR

And we can't know, don't you see? We mustn't risk finding out something that might prejudice our future actions!

TEGAN

Computer! What happened to the crew of this station?

EDGAR

Pity poor Edgar. Pity me! Pity me! Pity me!

TEGAN

Never mind that. What happened to the people who were here forty years ago? Where are they? What did you do with them?

EDGAR

You promised Edgar, Doctor. Take the past away! Please!

TEGAN

Where are they, you blasted machine!

EDGAR

Medical bay. Second level.

TEGAN

Right. I'm going to take a look!

(FX: TEGAN LEAVES)

DOCTOR

Tegan! (BEAT) Sometimes it feels like I spend half my life chasing after that woman...

15. MEDICAL BAY

(FX: LIFT ARRIVING, FIST BANGING ON DOOR)

TEGAN

Alright. Open this thing up!

EDGAR

The medical bay has been sealed. From the inside.

TEGAN

How does that work? Is there another way in?

EDGAR

Negative.

(FX: THE OTHERS ARRIVE)

TEGAN

Doctor, this computer thing says the door's locked.

DOCTOR

Well, perhaps that's just as well.

NYSSA

Tegan, the Doctor's right.

TEGAN

Oh no. There must be some way of getting this thing open.

(BEAT) You. Tik Tok.

LOKI

Me?

TEGAN

Can you open this door?

LOKI

I can over-ride the security mechanism. But I don't think it's a very good idea...

TEGAN

Never mind that, just do it! Nyssa said you should whatever we ask, didn't she?

(FX: SECURITY MECHANISM OVER-RIDDEN)

NYSSA:

Loki, no!

TURLOUGH

It would appear that it's too late.

NYSSA

Scan the atmosphere!

(FX: LOKI SCANS)

LOKI

No detectable airborne pathogens.

TEGAN

There. Even R-2-D-2 thinks it's safe.

(FX: TEGAN ENTERING THE MEDICAL BAY, FOLLOWED BY OTHERS.
LIGHTS FLICKERING ON)

TEGAN

(REACTS) Ugh! What happened to this place? It's all... cobwebs!

NYSSA

Loki. Any signs of life?

(FX: LOKI SCANS)

LOKI

None that I can detect, Miss Nyssa.

TURLOUGH

That might be the case, but I don't think we're entirely alone.

TEGAN

What do you mean?

TURLOUGH

Look. The beds.

DOCTOR

Four bodies.

TEGAN

Wrapped up in cocoons? There doesn't seem to be anything left of them apart from the bones.

NYSSA

But there were only three people in the crew...

TURLOUGH

This one, it has some clothes, or what remains of them.

TEGAN

And this one. And just look at what it's wearing!

DOCTOR

Some sort of suit... or a school uniform. Like Turlough's.

TURLOUGH

And this one's wearing a survival suit. Like Nyssa's.

NYSSA

This one has the same clothes that Tegan is wearing now..

TEGAN

And this one has what's left of a cricketing outfit.

TURLOUGH

Then that would seem to confirm it. These skeletons –

TEGAN

They're us? Doctor? (BEAT) Doctor?

DOCTOR

Yes. It seems it is our destiny to go back in time and become these corpses. They are all that remains... of our future selves!

(FX: ON THAT BOMBSHELL, END OF PART ONE. CRASH INTO THEME!)

PART TWO

16: INT. MEDICAL BAY

(REPRISE:)

TURLOUGH

Then that would seem to confirm it. These skeletons...

TEGAN

They're us? Doctor? (BEAT) Doctor?

DOCTOR

Yes. It seems it is our destiny to go back in time and become these corpses. They are all that remains... of our future selves!

TEGAN

No. No, I don't believe it! It's a set-up! Something brought the TARDIS here, right? Well, whatever it was, it put these... things here too!

DOCTOR

And why do you think they would've done that, hmmm?

TEGAN

Somebody's idea of a sick joke? I don't know! But whatever the reason is, those bodies are not us.

TURLOUGH

Tegan does have a point, Doctor. We can't be absolutely certain these skeletons are our future selves.

DOCTOR

I suppose it is a possibility... albeit an unlikely one.

NYSSA

We should at least check. Loki. What do you make of them?

(FX: LOKI SCANNING)

LOKI

Remains appear consistent with humanoid organisms. As far as I can detect... oh, Varsak's beard! They're you. The four of you!

TEGAN

Well, if you think I'm trusting the word of that jumped-up one-armed bandit, you're very much mistaken!

DOCTOR

Very well. Nyssa, if you could help me take samples... we'll see what light the base's laboratory can shed on the matter.

17: INT. LABORATORY

(FX: FADE UP. LABORATORY CENTRIFUGE)

TEGAN

How much longer's it going to take?

DOCTOR

Patience. Just getting the results of the spectrographic test!

(FX: METAL CAGE RATTLE)

TEGAN

Turlough, can't you leave anything alone for five minutes?

TURLOUGH

These cages. They're metal, heavy, reinforced metal.

TEGAN

So?

TURLOUGH

So I think whatever they were experimenting with here, it was somewhat larger – and more savage – than a virus!

(FX: TEST RESULTS BEEP)

DOCTOR

Well, that appears to be conclusive. The cells of the remains match our own, even down to the genetic signature.

NYSSA

And they would've been approximately our ages when they died.

TEGAN

(SARCASTIC) Well, that's very reassuring!

TURLOUGH

Couldn't they be clones of some sort? Duplicates?

DOCTOR

It'll be several centuries before that technology exists in this corner of the galaxy, I'm afraid.

NYSSA

Doctor. There is another possibility. They could be alternative versions of us, from another time-stream. Like when we visited Stockbridge?

DOCTOR

There's one simple way to find out! Tegan, take these scissors, make a cut in the lining of Turlough's jacket!

TURLOUGH

(SURPRISED) What?

TEGAN

A cut? Where?

DOCTOR

Doesn't matter, anywhere you like, just a snip. Well, go on!

TEGAN

Alright... but I don't see [what this -]

TURLOUGH

Excuse me, but why does it have to be my jacket?

(FX: SNIP)

DOCTOR

Now, Nyssa, the jacket you took from the Turlough skeleton. Is there a cut in the lining?

NYSSA

(AMAZED) Yes, there - in precisely the same place...

DOCTOR

Then that proves it.

TEGAN

(DISMISSIVE) That proves it? A lame-brained conjuring trick?

DOCTOR

Tegan, how much more evidence do you need? We know we've been here before - or that we will have been here before - because the base computer recognised us, because we've seen ourselves in the memory records!

TEGAN

Well, in that case, I'm getting out of here.

DOCTOR

Tegan -!

TEGAN

You might want to stick around and get killed, but I'd rather not if it's all the same to you!

18: INT. CORRIDOR

(FX: TEGAN RUNS, DOCTOR FOLLOWING)

DOCTOR

Tegan, wait! (CATCHES UP) Where do you think you're going?

TEGAN

Where do you think? Back to the TARDIS!

DOCTOR

And then what?

TEGAN

Go somewhere else, anywhere else! Forget this whole place ever existed and never come back!

DOCTOR

Running away won't solve anything.

TEGAN

You want to bet? I say we do our best to make sure we don't end up as a load of skeletons, and the best way of doing that is by going somewhere as far away as possible!

DOCTOR

We can't do that.

TEGAN

Oh, really?

DOCTOR

To use knowledge of the future to prevent it from occurring would cause a temporal negation paradox.

TEGAN

Is that the best you can do? This is my life you're talking about! Turlough's life, Nyssa's life, your life. Isn't that more important to you than having a few points on your time travel licence?

DOCTOR

It doesn't work like that. I only wish it did.

TEGAN

I don't care! You're the Time Lord, you sort it out! But I can tell you one thing... if those corpses are what the future has in store then it's a future that I'm not gonna allow to happen!

(FX: DURING THE FOLLOWING, WE SHIFT TO EDGAR'S POINT OF VIEW — AS THOUGH EAVESDROPPING ON THE CONVERSATION WITH HIDDEN MICS)

DOCTOR

But we know we end up travelling back in time –

TEGAN

No, we don't! You can if you like, but you can include me out!

EDGAR

But you promised me, Doctor. You promised poor Edgar. You can't leave me alone again. You can't! You can't!

(FX: AND EDGAR'S EAVESDROPPING SHIFTS TO THE LABORATORY...)

19. INT. LABORATORY

LOKI

Threat-mode increasing, Miss Nyssa. I recommend we return to the scout ship and depart immediately.

(FX: WE LEAVE EDGAR'S POV. NYSSA IS PRESSING BUTTONS, TRYING TO GET THE EQUIPMENT TO WORK)

NYSSA

Not until we've got what we came for. The answer must lie in the neuronics logs somewhere.

TURLOUGH

What was it the Doctor said, about us finding out too much about our own futures?

NYSSA

This is too important. If the people here found a cure –

TURLOUGH

– the details would be recorded in their memories. Ah. Yes.

NYSSA

I've seen similar systems elsewhere. At the end of each day you upload your memories into the database, so you can access them for future reference, share them with others, even recall past events without loss of accuracy.

TURLOUGH

Ingenious. And I suppose it saves having to write things down!

NYSSA

This might be it – Edgar, play Cardell's final entry.

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED. A PROJECTION – DIALOGUE FROM SCENE 63:
"This is Director Cardell, Helheim gene-tech research station.
We have discovered a cure for Richter's syndrome, and we –")

NYSSA

They did it! Edgar, continue playback.

EDGAR

Unable to comply.

NYSSA

What?

EDGAR

File terminated.

NYSSA

Edgar, play all other memory records relating to research into Richter's Syndrome.

EDGAR

No records available.

TURLOUGH

That's computers for you. Unreliable!

NYSSA

Unless... Loki, could you link your neural [functions -] Loki? Oh, where has that robot go to?

TURLOUGH

It mentioned something about returning to your scout ship?

NYSSA

(LEAVING) Come on. He can't have got far...

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED. DOOR OPENS AS THEY LEAVE.)

20. INT. CORRIDOR

DOCTOR

Tegan, aren't you even a little bit curious to find out what happened here?

TEGAN

Not if it means my own death, no!

(FX: CLANG. METAL DOOR SLAMS. HISSING SOUND - AIRLOCK CLOSING. SEE SCENE 56)

TEGAN

What the... that door wasn't there a second ago!

DOCTOR

What door?

TEGAN

Can't you see it? Like some sort of airlock or bulkhead.

DOCTOR

Tegan, close your eyes, concentrate...

TEGAN

And there's a sound, like escaping gas... (GASPS) Doctor. I can't... I can't breathe. I can't breathe!

(FX: HISSING GETS LOUDER)

DOCTOR

Tegan, you're experiencing another memory projection. It's not real, it's an artificially-induced illusion!

TEGAN

Yes... but you saying that doesn't actually help very much!

DOCTOR

No. Computer – Edgar. Cancel projection! Cancel!

TEGAN

(CAN'T BREATHE)

EDGAR

Cancelling.

(FX: AIRLOCK SOUND ABRUPTLY SILENCED)

TEGAN

(DEEP BREATH) Thank goodness for that. I thought I was going to suffocate!

DOCTOR

No, vivid as the experience may be, I don't think the memories can harm you.

TEGAN

So what just happened, that was what Turlough and Nyssa saw? Somebody's final moments before they died? Being suffocated in an airlock?

DOCTOR

Grisly, isn't it? Edgar seems to have been instructed to play back those specific memories. I wonder why?

21. SPACECRAFT

(FX: AIRLOCK OPENS, ENGINES RUMBLING, BLEEPING INSTRUMENTS)

NYSSA

Loki – what are you doing?

LOKI

Threat-mode now beyond all toleration levels! Miss Nyssa, I can't bear it any more. We have to leave – and leave now!

NYSSA

But if you can't identify the nature of the threat –

LOKI

It's inside my mind. I can hear it. (BEAT) It is screaming.

TURLOUGH

What is? The base computer? Edgar?

LOKI

It will kill all of you, I know it! I don't know how, but I can sense what's going to happen! I can see it!

TURLOUGH

Those skeletons must have scared him out of his wits.

NYSSA

Loki, I know you're frightened, but you have to learn to moderate your threat responses.

LOKI

Please. We have to take off. If we stay here... we'll die! I know it!

(FX: SCUTTLING REPAIR SPIDER)

TURLOUGH

Nyssa. I don't want to alarm you, but there's something in the ship with us – it's forced open one of the overhead panels –

NYSSA

Maintenance spiders! They must have got in through the fuel ducts.

LOKI

They were here when I arrived, I couldn't stop them.

(FX: MORE SPIDERS SCUTTLING, BEEPING ABOUT. CIRCUITS FUSING)

TURLOUGH

They seem more intent on ripping the power feeds to shreds than performing 'maintenance'.

(FX: OMINOUS RUMBLING GROWING LOUDER)

LOKI

According to my sensors, hyperspace drives have begun ignition.

NYSSA

What? But if they're triggered while the ship's on the ground
—

TURLOUGH

- it will cause a very large explosion.

NYSSA

We have to move. Quick, Loki! Into the airlock!

(FX: THEY DASH INTO THE AIRLOCK.)

TURLOUGH

Can't your metal friend move any faster? He'll get us killed!

(FX: DURING THE FOLLOWING, WE SHIFT TO EDGAR'S POINT OF VIEW)

NYSSA

Quickly, Loki, seal the airlock door. Hurry!

(FX: WE OVERHEAR EDGAR TALKING TO HIMSELF)

EDGAR

Now you can't leave me. Edgar will never be left alone again!

22. CORRIDOR NEAR AIRLOCK

DOCTOR

Alright?

TEGAN

(RECOVERING) It might have only been an hallucination, but it was a bit too realistic for comfort!

DOCTOR

Yes. It [would seem –]

(FX: MASSIVE EXPLOSION)

TEGAN

What was that?

(FX: THEY RUN TO WINDOW)

DOCTOR

Nyssa's ship. It's been destroyed!

TEGAN

What? But how –

(FX: NYSSA AND TURLOUGH RUN IN, LOKI WHIRRING AFTER.)

DOCTOR

Nyssa, Turlough, you're safe. What happened?

NYSSA

My ship... the repair spiders broke in, started dismantling it!

TURLOUGH

It was deliberate sabotage, Doctor. They caused the explosion.

TEGAN

Or whatever controls them did.

DOCTOR

Edgar. Yes. He does seem determined that we shouldn't leave.

TEGAN

Well, if it wants us to stay, why is it trying to kill us?

(FX: EDGAR INTERRUPTS VIA INTERCOM)

EDGAR

Edgar does not wish you any harm. Edgar intends to save you!

DOCTOR

Save us?

EDGAR

You have seen your fate. With poor Edgar left in the darkness. Pity me. Pity me!

DOCTOR

Yes, you have my sympathy, but how are you trying to save us?

EDGAR

Take the past away. Edgar knows the four of you can travel in time. Edgar, he saw you before, many years ago. The blue box.

TEGAN

It knows about the TARDIS?

EDGAR

I beg you. Please. Go back. Save them. Save poor Edgar!

DOCTOR

Of course. It wants us to change the past. Edgar wants us to prevent the base's crew from being killed!

23. CORRIDOR

(FX: ELEVATOR RISING)

TEGAN

But if the crew were killed, where are the bodies? Shouldn't there be three more corpses lying about the place?

DOCTOR

Yes. That does seem odd, now you mention it.

TEGAN

I'll tell you something else that's odd. If those remains are our future selves – and I'm not admitting they are – but if they are, then where's their TARDIS?

(FX: ELEVATOR STOPS. THEY LEAVE)

TURLOUGH

There's also the small matter of the alien ruins. If they disturbed something down there, something buried...

DOCTOR

Yes. Too many questions. And unfortunately only one way of finding the answers.

NYSSA

By travelling back in the TARDIS.

TEGAN

Oh no. No way. I'd rather live out my days in ignorance.

TURLOUGH

For what it's worth, I agree with Tegan. I have no desire to end up a rotting corpse in a research station medical bay!

DOCTOR

Nor do I. But with time travel, there are rules. Rules that cannot be broken.

TEGAN

Since when did you ever care for rules?

DOCTOR

This is different.

TEGAN

Too right it is!

NYSSA

But Tegan, we don't have any choice. [We have to –]

TEGAN

Oh, surprise surprise! You're on the Doctor's side. As usual!

(FX: THEY ARE INTERRUPTED BY EDGAR)

EDGAR

Commencing gene-tech facility emergency quarantine procedure.

(FX: WARNING ALARM SOUNDS – PRESENT IN BACKGROUND FROM NOW ON)

DOCTOR

Edgar, what do you mean, emergency quarantine procedure?

EDGAR

Initiating total eradication of Helheim gene-tech facility.

TEGAN

It's started the self-destruct! If you ask me, that computer's totally doolally.

DOCTOR

No-one is asking you. Edgar, cancel emergency quarantine!

EDGAR

Procedure irreversible. Commencing ignition of plasma fission reactors.

TURLOUGH

The ultimate safeguard – taking the nuclear option!

NYSSA

(REMEMBERING) Loki. Where is Loki? We have to find him!

TEGAN

Haven't you got more important things to worry about than that dratted robot?

DOCTOR

Tegan, Turlough, go back to the TARDIS, wait for us there.

TEGAN

What about you?

DOCTOR

We'll be right behind you. Tegan, you can argue with me later. Run!

TEGAN

At least we'll be getting out of here!

(FX: TEGAN AND TURLOUGH RUN)

NYSSA

Doctor, we [need to -]

DOCTOR

I know. Edgar, locate Nyssa's companion, designation - Loki!

EDGAR

Device located in facility control room.

DOCTOR

Come on!

(FX: THEY RUN)

24. CONTROL ROOM

(FX: ALARM LOUDER HERE. DOOR OPENS.)

DOCTOR

Now, if I can re-initialise the computer's command protocols –

(FX: DOCTOR PUSHING BUTTONS, OPENING UNITS, REWIRING CIRCUITS)

NYSSA

Loki! What are you doing here?

LOKI

Identifying the source of threat-mode. As instructed.

NYSSA

Never mind that. We have to leave, in the Doctor's TARDIS.

LOKI

TARDIS? What's a TARDIS?

NYSSA

It's a type of time machine, a blue box.

LOKI

Time machine. Blue box. Updating records.

NYSSA

Doctor?

DOCTOR

Nearly there. Just have to by-pass Edgar's logic functions...

EDGAR

No, Doctor. Pity me. Pity poor Edgar. Permit me to die.

NYSSA

The computer – it's attempting to commit suicide?

DOCTOR

I'm afraid so. Edgar, don't do this! I'm trying to help you...

EDGAR

Deleting mainframe memory records. Uninstalling all programmes.

NYSSA

Can't you stop it?

DOCTOR

I'm doing my best, but it's not responding. (THUMPS DESK)

EDGAR

Memory records twenty per-cent remaining. Fifteen per-cent.

DOCTOR

Edgar, listen to me! You're wiping your own mind!

EDGAR

Pity me. Pity me. Pity me.

(FX: EDGAR'S 'PITY ME'S LOOP AND SPEED UP, THEN SLOW DOWN)

NYSSA

It's dying.

EDGAR

Memory records five per-cent remaining. Four. Three. Two. Logic functions deleted. Primary operating system deleted.

(FX: EDGAR'S VOICE SLOWS DOWN, DROPS IN PITCH, HALTS)

DOCTOR

It's too late. It's stopped.

NYSSA

But the countdown to the emergency quarantine hasn't!

DOCTOR

No. You're right. There's nothing we can do. We have to go!

(FX: THEY LEAVE)

25. CONSOLE ROOM

(FX: DOORS OPEN. DOCTOR AND NYSSA DASH IN)

TEGAN

Doctor, what happened?

DOCTOR

I'll explain later. Close the doors, we've only a few seconds left!

NYSSA

Wait, Loki's still outside. (CALLS TO HIM) Hurry, Loki!

(FX: LOKI WHIRRS IN)

LOKI

I'm sorry, Miss Nyssa. I wasn't built for rapid movement.

(FX: TARDIS DOORS SHUT. TAKE-OFF BEGINS)

DOCTOR

Hold on, I'm going to have to perform a temporal shift before we're caught in the explosion!

TURLOUGH

Can't we just dematerialise?

DOCTOR

No time – watch out, here it comes!

(FX: MASSIVE EXPLOSION OUTSIDE. TARDIS SHUDDERS VIOLENTLY)

26. CONTROL ROOM

(FX: FADE UP. COMPUTER AT WORK. EDGAR NOW YOUNG, SANE VERSION)

CARDELL

Edgar. Save my memories, tag Richter's, research, Director Cardell, day ninety-seven, duration sixteen hours.

EDGAR

Uploading memory record.. Memory uploaded.

CARDELL

Marvellous. Have the others saved any new memories yet?

EDGAR

Enforcement Officer Bragg has uploaded one new memory. Tag subterranean ruins research analysis. Duration three hours.

CARDELL

Okay, I think I can cope without having three hours of paranoid speculation downloaded into my brain. Anything else?

(FX: ALARM SOUNDS)

EDGAR

Alert! Security breach in level three.

CARDELL

What? Visual.

(FX: HOLOGRAPHIC PROJECTION. TARDIS LANDING SOUND)

CARDELL

What is it, some sort of transmat capsule? Looks archaic.

EDGAR

Object defies analysis. Scanners unable to penetrate exterior. Appearance does not correspond with any known device.

CARDELL

Oh, ice in Hell. The last thing we need. Edgar, get me Valis.

(FX: COMMUNICATOR CHANNEL OPENS.)

VALIS (VIA RADIO)

What is it? I'm right in the middle of –

CARDELL

Sorry to interrupt, but, well, you've got to see this. A blue box has just appeared out of nowhere.

(FX: WE SHIFT TO THE LAB. CRACTIDS ARE CHITTERING IN THE B/G)

VALIS

Isn't this Bragg's responsibility? I'm really busy right now –

CARDELL (VIA RADIO)

You're always busy. Get yourself down there. That's an order.

(FX: WE MOVE BACK TO CONTROL ROOM)

VALIS (VIA RADIO)

Fine, fine, whatever, I'm on my way.

CARDELL

Edgar, get me Bragg. Don't tell me, he's digging up 'relics'...

(FX: ANOTHER COMMUNICATION CHANNEL OPENS)

BRAGG (VIA RADIO)

What do you want, director?

CARDELL

A security breach, level three. Some sort of transmat capsule.

BRAGG (VIA RADIO)

But that's impossible, we're out of range for any – (transmat)

CARDELL

So maybe you should stop skulking around in the dark and do what you're paid for. Oh, and just in case – armed response.

BRAGG (VIA RADIO)

Understood. Can't be too careful!

27. CONSOLE ROOM

(FX: SCANNER OPENS)

DOCTOR

Same location, forty years, two months and two days earlier.

TEGAN

Doesn't look very different.

DOCTOR

What were you expecting?

TEGAN

I don't know... Except there's no cobwebs. It's clean. New.

NYSSA

At this point in time, it is new. The station has only been operational for a few months.

TURLOUGH

And it seems our presence has not gone entirely unnoticed..

DOCTOR

What? Oh, yes. Don't look very pleased to see us, do they?

(CUT TO:)

28. BASE CORRIDOR

(FX: BRAGG RUNNING A SCAN. MACHINE WHOOPS)

CARDELL

What do you make of it? Bragg?

BRAGG

A container of some sort? Made of processed xylem. There's a door. 'Pull to open'.

(FX: RATTLES DOOR TO NO AVAIL.)

VALIS

You think there's somebody inside?

CARDELL

Possibly. Could be agents working for one of the independents.

VANCE

But nobody outside the Company knows we're here.

CARDELL

Then maybe somebody on the inside tipped them off? What, do you think this thing just landed here by accident?

(CUT TO:)

29. CONSOLE ROOM.

TEGAN

So that's the crew of this place. While they were still alive.

DOCTOR

Tegan. If you're suggesting what I think you're suggesting –

TEGAN

Why not? We can warn them. Stop them getting killed.

DOCTOR

No. What's done is done.

TEGAN

You'd rather just let them die? That's what you want?

DOCTOR

No! What do you take me for? Don't you think I'd love to be able to change history? Save Joan of Arc from execution. Prevent Franz Ferdinand being assassinated? Don't you think I'd do that if I could?

TEGAN

Then why don't you?

DOCTOR

Because I can't. Because... because –

TEGAN

Because it's against the rules. The Time Lord code. You said.

NYSSA

Tegan, [if you think –]

TEGAN

Nyssa, don't say anything! There's nothing you could say that would make me less furious right now! I know what you're going to say; the Doctor's right, he knows best. Well, in this case, he doesn't!

DOCTOR

I can't force you to come with me, any of you. You can stay in the TARDIS if that's what you want.

TEGAN

Too right I'm staying!

DOCTOR

Turlough?

TURLOUGH

I'm sorry, but I'm with Tegan on this.

DOCTOR

Nyssa?

NYSSA

Those people have discovered a cure for Richter's, that's all that matters. My personal fate is irrelevant in comparison.

TEGAN

(HUMPH!) I knew it!

DOCTOR

Very well. Nyssa – will your, ah, robot friend be joining us?

NYSSA

Loki? You're very quiet. Are you alright?

LOKI

All systems at optimum efficiency. I must accompany you. I... I have a duty to make sure you're safe.

NYSSA

Good. We might need some protection...

(FX: DOOR OPENING, TAKING US TO:)

30. BASE CORRIDOR

(FX. TARDIS DOOR OPENING, DOCTOR AND NYSSA EMERGE. GUN CLICKS)

BRAGG

Don't move. Either of you.

DOCTOR

Hello. I'm the Doctor, this is my friend Nyssa, and her friend, Loki. Don't worry, we don't pose any sort of threat!

BRAGG

I said don't move!

DOCTOR

As you can see, we're unarmed. Entirely at your mercy! So there's absolutely no need to point a gun at us.

CARDELL

What are you doing here? This is a top-security facility!

VALIS

This 'Police Box' – it's your transmat?

DOCTOR

Something like that, yes.

BRAGG

Impossible. There's nowhere within range. Nowhere!

NYSSA

Our survey ship crashed on the opposite side of the planet. This is our escape capsule.

VALIS

Interesting design.

DOCTOR

Disguise. Based on an old Arcadian prayer booth. Devoted to the great god Pol-ick-eh Box.

BRAGG

Any more of you in there?

DOCTOR

Hardly. Does it look like there'd be room?

(FX: TARDIS DOOR CLOSED)

CARDELL

You haven't answered my question. What are you doing here? This system isn't on any trade routes –

NYSSA

We've come to see you, Director Cardell. Bio-technician Valis.

VALIS

You know who we are?

DOCTOR

Ah, yes. We're here on behalf of your employers. Inspection!

VALIS

You're from the Company?

DOCTOR

That's right. Unfortunately our papers were on our ship... but, well, we'd hardly know about this place and who you are, if we weren't. It is a top secret facility, after all!

NYSSA

We're here to report on your progress on Richter's Syndrome.

CARDELL

(LAUGHS) Our progress?

NYSSA

It is the objective of your research?

CARDELL

It's our objective, but if you're expecting good news, you're in for a disappointment.

VALIS

We've been working on it for over ninety days without success. We're still months, if not years, away from finding a cure!

NYSSA

What?

CARDELL

Valis. I think perhaps we should show them our 'research'...

BRAGG

But we can't be sure they're not spies.

CARDELL

Don't worry, Bragg. If it turns out they've been lying to us, I'll be only too delighted to let you execute them. But until that time... Doctor, Nyssa, if you would care to follow me?

(FX: THEY MOVE OFF)

31. CONSOLE ROOM.

TURLOUGH

The Doctor seems to have won them over.

TEGAN

It's a knack he has.

TURLOUGH

I wonder where they're taking him.

TEGAN

Does it matter? We know where he ends up.

TURLOUGH

Yes. And us too.

TEGAN

Not if we remain in here. We're safe.

TURLOUGH

How can we be sure of that? For all we know, this might be what we are supposed to do!

TEGAN

What do you mean?

TURLOUGH

I mean, remaining in the TARDIS might be precisely what causes us to end up dead.

TEGAN

Then what do you suggest?

TURLOUGH

You said it yourself. We use our knowledge of the future to prevent it from coming about!

TEGAN

You mean, warn the crew?

TURLOUGH

We know the manner of their deaths. If we can change that then we can save ourselves. Well? Or would you rather stay here and do nothing? Just as the Doctor wanted?

TEGAN

When you put it like that...

(FX: TARDIS DOOR OPENS)

32. LABORATORY

(FX: CRACTIDS IN THEIR CAGE SQUEALING AND RATTLING THE BARS.)

NYSSA

(WHISPER) Doctor. Those things, they're what attacked me in the memory projection! I mean, the person whose memory I saw!

DOCTOR

(QUIET) Probably best to keep that to ourselves for now.

(LOUD) Director Cardell, what are these creatures? Some sort of marine crustacean?

CARDELL

Cractids. They're the reason we've come here, aside from the isolation. They're the only indigenous species on this rock.

NYSSA

They've evolved to survive in the toxic atmosphere?

VALIS

More than that. They're the only organism in the galaxy with a natural immunity to the Richter's virus.

DOCTOR

So that's why you're so interested in them. (SNAPPED) Ouch!

(FX: A CRACTID IS PRODDED. IT SNAPS.)

CARDELL

Mind your fingers. A swarm of these things could consume you, flesh and bones, in under a minute.

NYSSA

So you infect them with the virus, then attempt to replicate the antivirals?

CARDELL

Sadly the problem of genetic incompatibility has proved insurmountable. The Cractid response is unique, we can't splice its genetic pattern into the human immune system.

NYSSA

Have you tried reversing the process?

VALIS

What do you mean?

DOCTOR

(TRYING TO SHUSH HER) Nyssa - !

NYSSA

Rather than alter the human immune system to mimic the Cractid response, why not adapt the Cractid antigen to function as part of the human immune system?

CARDELL

Because that... actually, that's not a bad idea.

VALIS

It might just work. It's got to be worth a try at least...

33. CONTROL ROOM

(FX: DOOR OPENS, BRAGG TAKES A SEAT)

BRAGG

Edgar, open an emergency com-link with Command Echelon.

EDGAR

Establishing communication. Established. Encryption on.

BRAGG

This is Helheim gene-tech station, Enforcement Officer Bragg speaking.

(FX: RADIO LINK. DISTANT AND CRACKLY.)

ECHELON (VIA RADIO)

Receiving you. What's the fire? You're not due to call-in for another orbit cycle.

BRAGG

Report three new arrivals – two humans, one guardian robot. They claim to have been sent by the Company.

ECHELON (VIA RADIO)

There's nothing down on the schedule.

BRAGG

Knew it. They're from an independent.

ECHELON (VIA RADIO)

You know what to do?

BRAGG

Oh yes. I know what to do. (SIGNING OFF) Praise to Magni and Modi.

ECHELEN (VIA RADIO)

Magni and Modi.

BRAGG

Edgar, shut down com-link.

(FX: COMMUNICATION ENDS)

EDGAR

Ending communication. Alert. Two more unauthorised personnel have emerged from the object on level three.

BRAGG

What? Visual.

(FX: WE OVERHEAR TEGAN AND TURLOUGH)

TEGAN (VIA SCANNER)

Who are we looking for?

TURLOUGH (VIA SCANNER)

We need to speak to someone away from the Doctor and Nyssa, convince them to listen to us, before it's too late.

BRAGG

Two more spies!

(FX: DOOR OPENS. LOKI'S DISTINCTIVE WHIRR)

BRAGG

What – oh, the girl's pet robot. What are you doing here?

LOKI

I... I don't know. Investigating source of threat. You must not harm Nyssa and her companions. I must protect them... I... I...

BRAGG

Oh, you're going to have to try harder than that, my friend.

(FX: GUN SAFETY CATCH OFF)

LOKI

Do not attempt to attack. I am equipped with numerous defence mechanisms!

BRAGG

I don't take orders from saboteurs.

(FX: GUN FIRES. LOKI COLLAPSES, HEAVILY, BODYWORK ON FIRE)

BRAGG

Well, come on then, shoot back! What's stopping you?

LOKI

Defensive capability compromised.

BRAGG

Come on! Shoot me, you pathetic machine!

(FX: GUN FIRES AGAIN, AND AGAIN. LOKI FIZZES IN PAIN)

LOKI

Complete systems failure. I... I... I knew something bad was going to happen! (DIES)

(FX: ELECTRONIC DEATH SCREAM/GROAN, MERGING INTO:)

34. LABORATORY

(FX: LASER FIRES. CRACTIDS SQUEAL)

NYSSA

You're not harming them?

CARDELL

To be honest, they're so vicious anyway, how would you tell?

(FX: CAGE DOOR CLOSED WITH A CLANG)

NYSSA

So, Valis... what did you do, before you came here?

VALIS

(SMALL LAUGH) Can't remember.

NYSSA

You can't remember?

VALIS

All the crew, when we were assigned to this mission, had our memories erased.

DOCTOR

Interesting. So as far as you're concerned, you have no past?

VALIS

No past, no family, no friends. The idea is that it frees up brain capacity, makes it simpler for us to pool our memories.

NYSSA

You sound like you don't mind?

(FX: VALIS PAUSES IN HER WORK)

VALIS

How can you miss what you don't remember? Besides, all our memories are stored on a crystal lattice. When we find the cure, finish our task, then we get our pasts back.

DOCTOR

But until then, you don't even know who you are. A blank page!

VALIS

Why are you asking all this? It's standard Company policy.

DOCTOR

Of course. Must have, er, slipped my mind! You know how it is!

35. BASE CORRIDOR

(FX: TEGAN AND TURLOUGH WALKING)

TEGAN

Remind me again why we decided to do this.

TURLOUGH

You can go back to the TARDIS if you like.

(FX: GUN CLICKS)

BRAGG

No. I wouldn't attempt to escape, if you want to live.

TURLOUGH

We've been looking for you. We have important information to tell you, about your future!

36. LABORATORY

(FX: FUTURISTIC INJECTION MACHINE — THE SAME ONE WE'LL HEAR BEING USED IN PART FOUR TO DISPENSE THE ANTIVIRUS CURE.)

VALIS

Injecting modified Cractid antigen into human cell culture..

(FX: DOOR OPENS. TEGAN AND TURLOUGH SHOVED IN BY BRAGG)

TEGAN

Hey, watch that thing!

DOCTOR

Tegan. Turlough. I thought you were going to wait in the TARDIS?

TURLOUGH

We, ah, changed our minds.

TEGAN

We have to warn these people, Doctor. Tell them what's going to happen.

DOCTOR

What? No. Remember what I told you, we mustn't interfere!

CARDELL

Bragg, who are these people?

BRAGG

I've spoken to Command Echelon. They haven't sent anyone to check up on us. These people are saboteurs. Spies!

NYSSA

But we've been helping you! We'd hardly do that – (if we)

BRAGG

Silence! Valis, Cardell, you know the procedure for dealing with intruders.

VALIS

You'll have to manage without me. I can't just drop what I'm doing, the experiment is at a crucial stage..

CARDELL

It's alright, Bragg, I'll assist you.

BRAGG

Then if you'd like to help me escort them to the medical bay..

(CUT TO:)

37. MEDICAL BAY

(FX: DOOR OPENS)

BRAGG

Inside!

TEGAN

What are you going to do with us?

(FX: DOOR CLOSES)

BRAGG

You'll see. Each of you. Onto the beds.

TURLOUGH

What?

BRAGG

You heard me. Onto the beds, you – over there – you, 'Doctor' – take this one. You, Turlough. And don't bother struggling, the straps tighten automatically.

(FX: DURING THIS, THEY GET ONTO THE BEDS. STRAPS FASTENED)

DOCTOR

You're making a terrible mistake!

BRAGG

How can I be making a mistake? I'm merely following procedure. Director Cardell. Ready with the lethal injections?

CARDELL

Ready.

BRAGG

You should be grateful. It's a painless death. Instantaneous. One small jab with a needle... and you'll never feel anything ever again.

TURLOUGH

You can't do this. We're the only ones who can help you!

TEGAN

We've seen the future. If you kill us, you're all going to die.

BRAGG

No. I think you'll find you're the ones who are going to die.

BRAGG

Director Cardell. If you'd care to commence the injections?

(FX: INJECTION PREPARATION SOUND EFFECT)

TEGAN

(STRUGGLING) No. No!

CARDELL

Hold still... don't worry, this won't hurt a bit...

NYSSA

(WHISPER) Doctor. The four skeletons in the medical bay...

DOCTOR

Yes. It seems our future has finally caught up with us!

(FX: END OF PART TWO. CRASH INTO THEME!)

PART THREE

38. MEDICAL BAY

(FX: REPRISE)

BRAGG

Director Cardell. If you'd care to commence the injections?

TEGAN

(STRUGGLING) No. No!

CARDELL

Hold still... don't worry, this won't hurt a bit...

NYSSA

Doctor. The four skeletons in the medical bay...

DOCTOR

Yes. It seems our future has finally caught up with us!

(FX: INTERCOM SOUNDS)

VALIS (VIA INTERCOM)

Director. Stop! Don't kill them!

CARDELL

What?

TEGAN

Thank goodness! One of you's seen sense!

CARDELL

Valis, what possible – (reason)

VALIS (VIA INTERCOM)

I've done it! The modified antivirals have neutralized the virus culture! It works! We've found a cure for Richter's!

BRAGG

That hardly justifies interrupting an execution.

VALIS (VIA INTERCOM)

Think about it, Bragg. We need test subjects.

TEGAN

(QUIETLY) Oh, rabbits!

BRAGG

Test subjects?

VALIS (VIA INTERCOM)

To check whether the cure is effective on humans. And if not, well, they are expendable...

TEGAN

Expendable!

DOCTOR

You don't have to do this!

BRAGG

Quiet! Valis. You take full responsibility?

VALIS (VIA INTERCOM)

Of course. I'll start with the woman called Nyssa.

(FX: INTERCOM ENDS. STRAPS BEING UNDONE)

CARDELL

I'll bring her. (INSTRUCTION) You. Up.

NYSSA

But my friends, [they -]

CARDELL

Don't worry, they'll get their turn. Now move.

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED. DOOR OPENS, CLOSES)

TEGAN

Now if you'd actually pay attention to what we've been saying!

TURLOUGH

You're in terrible danger, all of you! Everyone in this station is going to end up dead!

BRAGG

Are you threatening me?

TEGAN

It's not a threat, you big idiot. It's a warning!

BRAGG

If I were in your shoes, I'd be more concerned about what's going to happen to you. Once Richter's takes hold, every nerve cell in your body will be screaming out in agony. It's not unusual for victims to beg for death. Very soon you'll wish you'd been given the lethal injection instead!

39. CORRIDOR

(FX: NYSSA BEING DRAGGED ALONG)

NYSSA

You don't have to test the antivirals on any of us!
Interpreted correctly, the results [of the cell culture -]

(FX: NYSSA BUNDLED INTO A LIFT)

CARDELL

Save your strength for the experiment. You'll need it.

EDGAR

Director Cardell to proceed to - to facility control room.

(FX: THERE IS A GLITCH IN EDGAR'S SPEECH. SUBTLE, BUT THERE)

CARDELL

Edgar, I'm in the middle of something, can't it wait?

EDGAR

Priority one.

CARDELL

Fine, fine. Well, girl, it seems you've been granted a second
reprieve - temporarily.

(FX: LIFT ASCENDS)

40. MEDICAL BAY

(FX: TURLOUGH BEING ROUGHED UP)

BRAGG

I said, who are you working for?

TURLOUGH

And I told you, I don't work for anyone. We're from the future!

TEGAN

We've seen how each of you will die! In the memory records!

DOCTOR

Tegan, what did I tell you about not interfering?

TEGAN

Excuse me, we're about to be injected with goodness knows what, you think we should just lie back and wait?

DOCTOR

I think you will only make matters worse!

TEGAN

I'd like to know how things could be much worse!

TURLOUGH

Doctor, I think the argument is rather academic. It seems the future has a habit of happening whether we like it or not.

BRAGG

If you were really from the future, then you would know about the ancient ruins. You would know about the secret.

TURLOUGH

You've discovered something?

BRAGG

Oh yes. Something incredible.

DOCTOR

Show us.

BRAGG

What?

DOCTOR

Show us. Why not? After all, we are at your mercy.

BRAGG

It's a trick. You don't believe me, just like the others.

TURLOUGH

Might I suggest, as a means of guaranteeing our co-operation, you keep our companion here?

TEGAN

Turlough!

BRAGG

Alright. But if you try anything, any treachery – she dies.

(FX: STRAPS RELEASED)

TEGAN

Why do I always have to be the one who gets tied up and left behind?

BRAGG

Yes... The woman can come with us. You – Turlough! You can be the 'guarantee'!

TURLOUGH

What? But it was my idea!

(FX: STRAPS RELEASED)

TEGAN

Brave heart, Turlough! Brave heart!

41. CONTROL ROOM

CARDELL

Okay, Edgar, what is it?

EDGAR

Objective of gene-tech facility has been accomplished. You may now access your memory lattice.

(FX: MEMORY LATTICE RELEASED WITH ELECTRONIC HUM)

NYSSA

It's giving you your memories back?

CARDELL

Looks like it. Edgar. Restore!

EDGAR

Restoring.

(FX: RESTORING MEMORIES. SOUND LIKE SPOOLING TAPE. WE HEAR A WAR, LONG AGO, WEAPONS FIRING, EXPLOSIONS, A CHILD'S SCREAMS)

CARDELL

Yes... I remember. I... my mother. She... the sky filled with fire. I was crying. My children... (GASPS, SHOCK)

(FX: WHILE CARDELL RECOVERS, LOKI GROANS)

NYSSA

Loki! What's happened to you?

LOKI

Systems severely compromised. Unable to engage motor functions. Defensive capability... non-existent!

NYSSA

It's alright, Loki. I'll repair you, - (somehow)

LOKI

As far as I can tell, I am beyond restoration, I'm afraid, I...

NYSSA

What?

LOKI

I am afraid. I am close to the point of inoperability.

NYSSA

Listen, Loki, you reserve your power, the - (Doctor and I)

EDGAR

Director. There is a message included in your memory lattice.

CARDELL

A message? Who from?

EDGAR

Message signatory: Director Cardell.

CARDELL

Play.

(FX: MESSAGE PLAYS. IT'S CARDELL, VOICE SLIGHTLY DISTORTED)

CARDELL (RECORDING)

If you're hearing this, you've found a cure. Congratulations. As your memories are restored, you'll recall the real purpose of your mission. Your objective is to genetically re-engineer a new, more powerful strain of the Richter's virus. One which can only be cured using a product licensed to the Company!

(FX: MESSAGE ENDS)

NYSSA

You don't look pleased.

CARDELL

What in the name of the nine worlds do you think? (REGAINS COMPOSURE) But it's who I am.

NYSSA

So your mission wasn't to find a cure for the disease. You're here to create a new and more deadly form!

CARDELL

Standard marketing practice. Create a product, then create demand! Once you've patented the cure, you re-engineer the virus to be impervious to all other treatments, then release it into society and clean up.

NYSSA

But that's obscene!

CARDELL

That's not my concern. The Company's done it before. Plague as an economic filter! The rich pay for treatment, and any surplus population is... economized.

NYSSA

Billions of innocent people will die!

CARDELL

I didn't make the system. I only try to live in it.

NYSSA

You still have a choice!

CARDELL

Oh no. I don't have any choice in the matter. I remember that quite clearly; the lives of my children are dependent upon it. No, a new form of the virus must be generated. (BEAT) And the ironic thing is we couldn't have done it without you!

42. MEDICAL BAY

(FX: TURLOUGH STRUGGLING AGAINST BONDS)

TURLOUGH

(CALLS OUT) Computer. Computer. (BEAT) Edgar!

EDGAR

You wish to communicate?

TURLOUGH

Listen! My friends and I are from the future. We have travelled back in time, because your future self wanted us to prevent the others from being killed.

EDGAR

I am aware of the explanation for your presence.

TURLOUGH

Well, then, release me. Use the maintenance spiders! Send them in through the ventilation ducts!

EDGAR

Unable to comply.

TURLOUGH

What?

EDGAR

You do not have access privileges. I am not authorised to act upon your instructions.

TURLOUGH

(GIVING UP) Computers!

43. SUBTERRANEAN RUINS

(FX: CRAWLING THROUGH RUINS, ROCKS CRUMBLING)

TEGAN

What are we looking for? Looks like a load of old rubble to me.

DOCTOR

Shhh, Tegan. Mr Bragg has something he wishes to share with us.

(FX: THEY HALT)

BRAGG

There! Look, can't you see?

DOCTOR

(PLAYING ALONG) Oh, yes. Yes, of course!

TEGAN

I can't see anything.

DOCTOR

Humour him, Tegan. You never know, he might be onto something.

TEGAN

(QUIET) Might be on something, more like!

BRAGG

The inscription. It's the giveaway!

DOCTOR

The giveaway?

BRAGG

What's down here – it's our real past. We think we've come from the stars, but the truth is, there is nowhere else. This is all there ever has been, ever will be!

TEGAN

(QUIET) He's round the bend.

DOCTOR

Quite possibly. He's had all memories of the time before he came here removed, bound to play havoc with one's sanity.

BRAGG

But that's just it. There was no before. It's all a lie!

TEGAN

(WHISPER) There's nothing here, is there?

DOCTOR

(WHISPER) No. Sometimes an alien ruin is just an alien ruin!

BRAGG

(SUSPICIOUS) What are you saying?

DOCTOR

We were wondering if you would care to, ah, read out this inscription of yours?

BRAGG

Isn't it obvious?

TEGAN

Not to me, no.

BRAGG

It's our names. Engraved into the stone. Valis, Cardell and Bragg..

TEGAN

(WHISPER) They're not names, they're just patterns! Symbols!

DOCTOR

(WHISPER) Yes. I'm afraid that confirms your diagnosis. Mr Bragg is quite, quite mad!

44. LABORATORY

VALIS

You've had your memories restored?

CARDELL

Yes. I know... I know who I am now. You understand what you must do?

VALIS

Now that I've isolated the antigen sequence, it should be fairly straightforward to modify the virus to become more transmissible. But there's one thing –

CARDELL

Yes?

VALIS

I'll need to test it on the others. The augmented virus could have unpredictable effects, its incubation period may differ.

CARDELL

Very well. I'll bring them to you. You can start on the girl.

(FX: CARDELL LEAVES. BUTTONS PRESSED. DOOR OPENS, CLOSES)

VALIS

Okay, now Cardell's gone. Tell me. How did you know about adapting the Cractid antigen?

NYSSA

That's why you asked for me?

VALIS

You clearly know far more than you're letting on. We've been working on this for months, only for you to walk in and come up with the answer in a couple of minutes!

NYSSA

It's because... I've been working on Richter's syndrome too. And I've seen the consequences of your re-engineered virus being released!

VALIS

So what your friends said is true? You really are from the future?

NYSSA

It's a long story. But the reason we're here is to try to make sure that that future doesn't happen!

45. MEDICAL BAY

(FX: DOOR OPENS)

TURLOUGH

Doctor, Tegan! Did you find out anything?

TEGAN

Oh, one or two things.

DOCTOR

Bragg, you have to let us help you –

EDGAR

Enforcement Officer Bragg to proceed to facility control room.

(FX: DOOR OPENS)

BRAGG

Director Cardell, what are you – (doing here)

CARDELL

You just run along to Edgar, Mr Bragg. I've come to collect the others. For experimentation.

46. LABORATORY

(FX: VALIS WORKING ON EXPERIMENT – MACHINES BEEPING)

EDGAR

Bio-technician Valis to proceed to facility control room.

VALIS

Not now, Edgar.

EDGAR

Priority one.

VALIS

I'll be down as soon as I can. Now stop bothering me.

NYSSA

You're not going?

VALIS

No. You see, we're completed our mission. Which means we get our memories back.

NYSSA

Isn't that good news? Finding out who you really are?

VALIS

What if I don't like the person I really am? I mean, I must've agreed to come here, to do this. Maybe I don't want to be that person.

NYSSA

But what about your memories of your family?

VALIS

Maybe I'm better off not knowing? Being a blank slate. I know enough to know that everything I thought I knew is a lie.

NYSSA

A lie?

VALIS

I thought I was here to save lives. There, that's done it.

(FX: EXPERIMENT COMPLETED.)

NYSSA

You've re-engineered the virus?

VALIS

I said it would be straightforward.

NYSSA

You can't intend to go along with this?

VALIS

I told you. Not my decision. (BEAT) And may Freya forgive me.

47. CONTROL ROOM

(FX: DOOR OPENS)

BRAGG

Okay, Edgar, what is it?

EDGAR

As the mission goal has been achieved, you may now access your memory lattice.

BRAGG

No. No. I don't want to [have my -]

EDGAR

In event of resistance, I have the authority to over-rule your decision.

BRAGG

Whose authority?

EDGAR

Yours. Restoring.

(FX: EDGAR RESTORING MEMORIES. JUNGLE SOUNDS, ENGINES, SHOUTS)

BRAGG

No, it's a lie. There's nothing, there is no past! (GASPS)

EDGAR

There is a message included in your memory lattice. Message signatory: Enforcement Officer Bragg.

BRAGG

Go ahead.

(FX: MESSAGE PLAYS. IT'S BRAGG, VOICE SLIGHTLY DISTORTED)

BRAGG (RECORDING)

You're hearing this because the mission has been successful, and you've had your memories returned. Now listen carefully. You are an agent working for the Independent Bio-Development Group. We need you to acquire for us a sample of the re-engineered virus and the antiviral solution. And whatever you do, they must not remain in the hands of the Company!

(FX: MESSAGE ENDS)

BRAGG

(AMUSED) So it seems we did have a traitor in our midst. Me! (BEAT) Edgar, reconfigure access privileges. From now on you will obey only my instructions.

EDGAR

Command accepted.

48. LABORATORY

(FX: DOOR OPEN)

CARDELL

Inside, all of you.

NYSSA

(SEEING THEM, DELIGHT) Doctor, Tegan – !

DOCTOR

Nyssa, you haven't been harmed?

NYSSA

No, I'm fine –

CARDELL

Bio-Technician Valis, any progress?

VALIS

I've created an augmented viral strain. The sample contained in this phial is enough wipe out a planet.

CARDELL

And the antiviral solution?

VALIS

Prepared. In the second phial.

CARDELL

You have commenced testing on the woman?

VALIS

No. And I'm not going to.

CARDELL

Those are the direct instructions of the Company!

VALIS

I refuse to be complicit in economic mass-murder!

CARDELL

Funny way to commit suicide, but it's your choice. I'll just have to perform the experiment myself. You can be first.

VALIS

No!

(FX: DOOR OPENS)

BRAGG

Oh no, I wouldn't do that, if I were you, Director.

(FX: GUN CLICKS ON)

CARDELL

Bragg, what are you doing? Put that gun down at once. That's an order!

BRAGG

I think you'll find I'm the one giving the orders. Now. Give me the virus sample.

TURLOUGH

(WHISPER) Doctor, Tegan – quick, behind the dissection table.

TEGAN

(WHISPER) Why?

TURLOUGH

(WHISPER) I've seen this all before!

(FX: DOCTOR AND TEGAN MOVING BEHIND TABLE)

BRAGG

I said, give me the sample!

VALIS

No. Once the Company have the formula, – (they will)

BRAGG

I don't work for the Company. Now, for the final time..

CARDELL

You're an independent? You know, I always thought there was something a bit wrong about you.

BRAGG

I can see I'm going to have to prove my credentials.

(FX: GUN FIRES LASER – EXACTLY AS IN SCENE 11)

VALIS

(SHOT, SCREAMS)

(FX: VALIS FALLS ONTO TABLE – INSTRUMENTS SCATTER, SHATTER)

TURLOUGH

Now, Doctor, Tegan – run!

(FX: GUN FIRES. DOOR CLOSES. CUT TO:)

49. CORRIDOR

(FX: DOCTOR AND TEGAN RUNNING)

TEGAN

Doctor, he's still got Turlough and Nyssa in there with him!

DOCTOR

Yes, I am aware of that!

TEGAN

What did Turlough mean, he'd seen it all before?

DOCTOR

The telepathic projection, he'd experienced Valis's memory.

TEGAN

But hang on a minute. That doesn't make sense.

DOCTOR

Really? Why?

(FX: EDGAR INTERRUPTS ON INTERCOM – WITH GLITCHES)

EDGAR

Alert. Paradigm conflict. Multiple command protocols. (CUTS)
System error detected. Paradigm conflict resolved.

TEGAN

What's got into Edgar?

DOCTOR

Do you know, I think it might be an idea to find out!

50. LABORATORY

VALIS

(GROANS, WAKING)

NYSSA

Valis... she's not dead! Only stunned.

BRAGG

Stay back, all of you. Now, the samples of the virus and cure?

CARDELL

Here.

BRAGG

No sudden movements. Gently. On the table.

(FX: CLINK OF PHIALS ON THE TABLE)

BRAGG

Thank you. My employers will be most grateful! One more thing. Director, if you could step into the isolation chamber?

(FX: CHAMBER CAGE DOOR OPENS.)

CARDELL

What? Why?

BRAGG

Inside. Or the next time I shoot, it will be to kill.

CARDELL

You're mad.

BRAGG

Oh no. I can assure you, I am, for the first time in a long while, utterly sane.

(FX: CHAMBER DOOR SLAMS SHUT)

TURLOUGH

What are you doing?

BRAGG

Covering my tracks. So when the Company investigates, they'll know exactly what happened. Or they'll think they do.

(FX: BUTTON PUSHED. CRACTIDS CHITTER IN ANTICIPATION)

CARDELL

No! What are you doing! Let me out!

VALIS

Bragg! If you release the Cractids into the chamber, she won't stand a chance. They'll rip her into shreds!

NYSSA

(WHISPER) Turlough. This... this is the memory I saw!

TURLOUGH

(WHISPER) What?

NYSSA

I experienced being attacked by the Cractids... and now it's happening, just as it did in the projection!

VALIS

You have to stop this! It's cold-blooded murder!

BRAGG

The Cractids are merciless creatures. They'll strip the flesh from the bone, then devour the carcass, until nothing is left!

(FX: A GRILLE OPENS. CRACTIDS STREAM OUT, AS IN SCENE 3. WE SHIFT TO CONTROL ROOM WHERE THIS SCENE IS BEING WATCHED)

CARDELL (VIA MONITOR)

Bragg, let me out, you maniac! No! No. No! (SCREAMS)

(FX: CARDELL IS SAVAGED. WE CUT TO THE CONTROL ROOM)

51. CONTROL ROOM

TEGAN

Can't we do anything to stop this?

DOCTOR

Edgar, shut down the power to the isolation chamber. Now!

EDGAR

Unable to comply. Access privileges denied.

DOCTOR

Edgar, if you don't intervene, Cardell will die!

EDGAR

Sequence of events results in death of crew member. Must avert death of crew member. Must ensure death of crew member –

(FX: EDGAR HAS ANOTHER SERIES OF GLITCHES)

TEGAN

What do you think's happened, to Edgar?

DOCTOR

Something seems to have disrupted his logic circuits. Inducing a state of paranoid schizophrenia! Tegan. What was it you said that didn't make sense?

TEGAN

It doesn't matter now.

DOCTOR

Tell me!

TEGAN

The memory records. We saw the final moments of each of the crew, right? Their last few seconds before they were killed?

DOCTOR

Yes.

TEGAN

So, if they were dead, how could they have uploaded their memories into the computer?

DOCTOR

Of course, the memories were faked! Designed to make it look as though the crew had all been killed – when they hadn't!

TEGAN

So we don't know for sure whether the crew will live or die?

DOCTOR

No. It seems the future is all to play for!

52. LABORATORY

(FX: CRACTIDS SQUEALING, JUST AS IN SCENE 6)

CARDELL

(BANGING ON GLASS, MUFFLED) Let me out! Help me! Help!

NYSSA

Turlough, we must do something!

TURLOUGH

I thought the idea was that we shouldn't interfere?

NYSSA

We can't just stand by and watch her be eaten!

TURLOUGH

Then I recommend you avert your eyes!

VALIS

Bragg, don't do this, please.

BRAGG

You'll give me your full co-operation?

VALIS

Anything! Yes!

(FX: HIGH PITCHED ELECTRONIC WARBLE. CRACTIDS RECOIL)

NYSSA

What are you doing?

VALIS

A sonic burst at the resonant frequency of the Cractids' outer shells. Knocks them out for a few minutes!

(FX: ISOLATION CHAMBER DOOR CLANGS OPEN)

BRAGG

Out!

CARDELL

What in the name of Skadi did you do that for?

BRAGG

Edgar. Upload the most recent memories from Valis and Cardell.

EDGAR

Uploading memory record... Memories uploaded.

BRAGG

Good. Now edit – end Cardell memory at the point the Cractids attacked. End Valis memory at the point where she was shot. Oh, and obscure the identity of her attacker, of course!

EDGAR

Memory files edited.

VALIS

You're deliberately editing the records to make it look like we were killed?

BRAGG

When in fact, Bio-Technician Valis, you will be coming with me.

VALIS

What? No.

BRAGG

Your knowledge may still be useful... but as for the rest of you, well, I'm sure the Cractids will appreciate the protein!

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED. DOOR OPENS, CLOSES, LOCKS)

NYSSA

What did he mean?

CARDELL

The isolation chamber door is still open. When the Cractids recover... they'll stream out into the rest of the laboratory.

TURLOUGH

Then we've got to shut it. Where are the controls?

CARDELL

Here.

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED)

TURLOUGH

It's not responding!

CARDELL

It won't. Bragg has scrambled the security codes.

NYSSA

Then we should leave.

CARDELL

I'm afraid he's thought of that too. We're locked in.

(FX: CRACTIDS BEGIN SQUEALING)

NYSSA (VIA MONITOR, BACKGROUND DIALOGUE ONLY)

Turlough... I think the Cractids are beginning to wake up!

(FX: WE MOVE INTO THE NEXT SCENE, IN THE CONTROL ROOM)

53. CONTROL ROOM

(FX: TEGAN AND DOCTOR TALKING OVER THE ABOVE.)

TEGAN

Doctor, can't you get them out of there?

DOCTOR

Edgar. Open the laboratory door!

EDGAR

Unable to comply. All crew members must die!

TEGAN

What? Why?

EDGAR

Memory records indicate that the crew of this facility died on this date. Therefore, they shall, will, must die on this date!

DOCTOR

(FRUSTRATION) Circular logic!

TEGAN

Doctor, how come Edgar suddenly knows all about the future?

DOCTOR

Don't know. Somebody told him? Or maybe he overheard something?

EDGAR

I remember. It happened before. As it will happen again. Pity me. Pity me!

TEGAN

(REALISING) It remembers because it is the one from the future! It's in there somewhere as well!

DOCTOR

Yes! Two rival consciousnesses, fighting for supremacy in the same brain. Must be what caused it to lose its sanity.

TEGAN

But how did the other Edgar get here? Did it hitch a ride in the TARDIS?

(FX: LOKI STIRS BACK TO LIFE)

LOKI

(GROAN, INCOHERENT GIBBERISH) Weak. Power source. Scanning.

DOCTOR

Loki!

TEGAN

Nyssa's pet robot! What's it's doing here?

(FX: DOCTOR REPAIRING LOKI URGENTLY)

DOCTOR

Its auditory functions have been destroyed, but if I can patch through to the cerebral matrix, using power from Edgar...

TEGAN

You keep talking, I'll just stand here and nod occasionally.

DOCTOR

...with any luck, I should be able to get a residual output!

(FX: LOKI WAKES. VOICE WEAK, SLOWED-DOWN, DISTORTED)

LOKI

So dark. So dark. So lonely. Pity me. Pity poor Edgar. Pity me!

(FX: LOKI DIES)

TEGAN

That wasn't Loki.

DOCTOR

No. That was Edgar.

TEGAN

Inside Loki's head?

DOCTOR

Edgar must have downloaded a copy of itself into Loki's mind! Then, after Loki travelled back with us in the TARDIS...

TEGAN

- it uploaded that copy of itself into the Edgar in the past!

DOCTOR

The cause of its own madness. A self-perpetuating loop!

TEGAN

Which is how the future Edgar knew we could travel in time!

DOCTOR

Yes! But thanks to the logical paradox, this Edgar, rather than trying to avoid the deaths remembered by its future self, it is determined to make them come about...

(FX: DOOR OPENS. BRAGG PUSHES VALIS INSIDE)

BRAGG

Move away from the computer, Doctor.

DOCTOR

Or you'll shoot me? The number of times I've heard that threat, it's almost as if the universe has its own catchphrase.

BRAGG

Oh, Doctor. What do you take me for? I'll shoot your companion, then I'll shoot Valis, and then I'll shoot you.

TEGAN

Don't do it, Doctor, he can't risk damaging the machine!

DOCTOR

Why? What do you need Edgar for? You've got the virus, you've got the antiviral solution, so why are you still here?

BRAGG

Edgar! Erase all memory records relating to Richter's research.

EDGAR

Are you sure you want to permanently delete? This process is irreversible.

BRAGG

That's why I asked you to do it, you fatuous machine. Delete!

EDGAR

All memory records relating to research... deleted.

BRAGG

Good. Now. Valis. Ask for your memory lattice.

VALIS

No.

BRAGG

Don't make me tell you again.

VALIS

(PINNED IN GRIP) Edgar. Release my memory lattice.

(FX: MACHINE WHIRRS, RELEASING LATTICE)

VALIS

I — (SCREAMS) Bragg, no. That's not yours!

DOCTOR

Please. Be careful with that.

BRAGG

So. To think, I have a lifetime of your memories in my hand. All contained in the one small, fragile crystal.

VALIS

Please, put it down, it's of no use to you.

BRAGG

Every moment of your past. Every childhood summer, every hope, every heartbreak. Your entire history. I wonder who you really are –

(FX: CRYSTAL MEMORY LATTICE SMASHES)

VALIS

No!!!

TEGAN

I hope you're pleased with yourself, Bragg.

BRAGG

Very. I see our Cractid friends are becoming restless. When they've finished with you, there won't be a single ounce of you left. (BEAT) Don't try coming after us, Doctor. Or I will kill Valis.

VALIS

(YELPS, SHOVED)

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED. DOOR OPENS, CLOSES)

DOCTOR

Edgar. You have to let our friends out of the laboratory. Now!

EDGAR

Unable to comply.

DOCTOR

Very well, on your own head be it...

(FX: DOCTOR STARTS OPENING PANELS)

TEGAN

What are you going to do?

DOCTOR

What do I always do? Fiddle with wires until something lights up!

54. LABORATORY

(FX: CRACTIDS WAKING UP, SQUEALING, CHITTERING, RATTLING)

TURLOUGH

It's no good. They're crawling out of the chamber.

CARDELL

Edgar. Open the door! Please!

(FX: DOOR OPENS)

NYSSA

It worked!

TURLOUGH

So it seems! Let's not hang around, shall we?

(FX: NYSSA, CARDELL AND TURLOUGH LEAVE. CRACTIDS IN PURSUIT.)

CARDELL

Edgar, close the door after us. Close it! Close it!

TURLOUGH

It seems to have changed its mind..

(FX: INTERCOM ON. CRACTIDS ADVANCING.)

DOCTOR (VIA INTERCOM)

Turlough! Nyssa! Cardell! Get out of there! Run for your lives!

(FX: MOVE TO THE CONTROL ROOM WHERE THIS IS BEING WATCHED)

55. CONTROL ROOM

TEGAN

You did it. You repaired the computer!

DOCTOR

Oh no, I'm afraid we're not out of the woods yet.

TEGAN

What do you mean?

DOCTOR

I had to fuse the circuit to get the laboratory door to open.

TEGAN

So?

DOCTOR

So I can't close it again. In a few minutes, this whole base will be swarming with Cractids!

TEGAN

Then we should find Nyssa and Turlough and leave! Right now!

DOCTOR

No. First we have to find Bragg... where is he?

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED.)

DOCTOR

(CHECKING READING) Approaching the main airlock. Come on!

56. AIRLOCK

(FX: VALIS BEING DRAGGED ALONG)

VALIS

You've just condemned everyone in the station to certain death.

BRAGG

Then you should count yourself lucky you're not amongst them –

(FX: CRACTIDS APPROACH. A SWARM.)

VALIS

Oh mercy of Freya – Cractids. They'll kill both of us!

BRAGG

No. Just whichever one of us they get to first.

VALIS

(SHOVED) What? Bragg! No.

BRAGG

Pity. You would've been useful. Edgar, open airlock!

EDGAR

Opening airlock.

(FX: AIRLOCK DOOR OPENS. TSHHH!)

BRAGG

Now seal it! Quickly!

(FX: AIRLOCK DOOR CLOSES. TSHHH!)

VALIS

Bragg! Edgar! Open the airlock! Open the airlock! (SCREAMS)

(FX: CRACTIDS EATING VALIS ALIVE. CHOMP! CHOMP! WE MOVE TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE DOOR WHERE HER SCREAMS ARE MUFFLED)

BRAGG

Edgar. Can you hear me? I want you to depressurize the airlock. Then repressurize it, before I lose consciousness.

EDGAR

Pity me. Pity poor Edgar.

BRAGG

Never mind that, just do it!

EDGAR

Airlock depressurizing.

(FX: AIRLOCK DEPRESSURIZING SOUND AS IN SCENE 20.)

57. BASE CORRIDOR

(FX: DOCTOR AND TEGAN RUNNING)

DOCTOR

Come on, Tegan. Keep up!

TEGAN

I don't get it, why don't we just go-?

(FX: THEY BUMP INTO:)

NYSSA

Doctor!

DOCTOR

Nyssa, Turlough, Cardell! No time to explain, we have to try to reach the airlock, stop Bragg taking off –

TURLOUGH

That airlock being the one on the upper level?

DOCTOR

Yes.

NYSSA

You can't go up there, that's where those creatures are!

DOCTOR

They must have picked up Bragg's scent!

TEGAN

Then we should take the lift down to the crew quarters. Get back to the TARDIS while we still can!

CARDELL

Your transmat capsule? Good luck with that. I'll be in the control room, trying to talk some sense into Edgar.

DOCTOR

Cardell, there's nothing [you can do –]

CARDELL

He might listen to me. I have to try.

(FX: CARDELL LEAVES)

TEGAN

Well, Doctor? Time we got out of here!

DOCTOR

You don't understand, Tegan.

NYSSA

If Bragg leaves now, the virus will be released thirty years early, and the whole course of history will be changed!

TURLOUGH

Well, whatever you decide, I suggest we move. Look!

(FX: CRACTIDS STREAMING THROUGH VENTS, GETTING NEARER)

NYSSA

Oh no. Cractids... they've broken into the access shafts.

TURLOUGH

How can they reproduce so quickly?

TEGAN

Does it really matter? They're between us and the TARDIS!

DOCTOR

Yes. So now there's only one place left for us to run...

(FX: THEY RUN)

58. SUPPLY SHIP

(FX: AIRLOCK CLOSES. BRAGG CLAMBERS INSIDE)

BRAGG

Right. Edgar. Upload my memory, last thirty seconds.

EDGAR

Uploading memory record... Memory uploaded.

BRAGG

Now end it at a point one second before the airlock began to re-pressurize.

EDGAR

Memory file edited.

BRAGG

Something else. If, at any point in the future, anyone visits this research station, you play back the most recent memories.

EDGAR

Command accepted.

BRAGG

One last thing. Begin broadcast, warning signal. 'This is Helheim gene-tech facility. We are in a state of emergency quarantine. Do not attempt to land.'

EDGAR

Message recorded. Beginning transmission.

BRAGG

Keep transmitting. No matter what. Right. Now. Ship computer? Commence launch.

SHIP COMPUTER

Fuel reserves insufficient.

BRAGG

What?

SHIP COMPUTER

Fuel reserves insufficient.

BRAGG

I don't believe it! Computer, transfer power from the base's solar stacks. They won't be needing it any more!

59. CONTROL ROOM

(FX: DOOR OPENS. EDGAR NOW EXTREMELY GLITCHY. POWER DRAIN – ALL THE EQUIPMENT DROPS IN PITCH, LIGHTS FLICKER)

CARDELL

Edgar. What's happening?

EDGAR

The solar stacks are being drained by the supply ship.

CARDELL

What? Edgar. Cut the power feed!

EDGAR

Access privileges denied.

CARDELL

What? (REALISING) Bragg!

EDGAR

Alert. Cractid organisms approaching facility control room.

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED. DOOR CLOSES)

CARDELL

Fantastic. Now I'm trapped in here.

60. BASE CORRIDOR

(FX: OUR HEROES RUNNING. CRACTIDS IN HOT PURSUIT)

TEGAN

There's more of those things, there must be hundreds of them!

DOCTOR

Come on, nearly there –

TURLOUGH

(REALISING WHERE THEY ARE) Oh no! Not here.

NYSSA

The medical bay!

(FX: LIGHTS FLICKER. POWERING DOWN)

TEGAN

Hey, what happened to the lights?

DOCTOR

Never mind that – quick, inside, all of you!

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED. DOOR OPENS. CRACTIDS IN HOT PURSUIT)

DOCTOR

Everyone in? Right!

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED. DOOR CLOSES)

TEGAN

Great. So we're locked in. Now what do we do?

TURLOUGH

We wait. To die.

DOCTOR

Ever the optimist, Turlough.

TURLOUGH

Don't you see, Doctor? This is how we ended up in the medical bay. Sealed from the inside! Four skeletons!

TEGAN

We can't be sure, we might escape.

NYSSA

With those things outside? If we open that door, we'd be eaten within a matter of seconds.

TEGAN

You mean we stay here until we starve to death?

TURLOUGH

Or until the oxygen runs out.

TEGAN

Doctor. Tell me it's not true.

DOCTOR

I'm sorry, Tegan. We've seen the future. This is how it ends!

(FX: END OF PART THREE. CRASH INTO THEME!)

PART FOUR

61. MEDICAL BAY

(FX: REPRISE)

TURLOUGH

Don't you see, Doctor? This is how we ended up in the medical bay – sealed from the inside? Four skeletons!

TEGAN

We can't be sure, we might escape.

NYSSA

With those things outside? If we open that door, we'd be dead within a matter of seconds.

TEGAN

You mean we stay here, until we starve to death?

TURLOUGH

Or until the oxygen runs out.

TEGAN

Doctor. Tell me it's not true.

DOCTOR

I'm sorry, Tegan. We've seen the future. This is how it ends!

NYSSA

Our lives aren't significant. All that matters is that we stop Bragg from leaving with a sample of the augmented virus.

TEGAN

How do you propose we do that? We're trapped here, in case you hadn't noticed!

NYSSA

I don't know, Tegan, but arguing amongst ourselves is not going to help!

TURLOUGH

I wonder if Cardell made it to the control room.

TEGAN

You and your morbid curiosity, Turlough. Pulled the legs off any spiders lately?

TURLOUGH

I was asking, because if she did, she might be in a position to help us!

DOCTOR

Quiet, everyone! Cardell. Can you hear me?

(FX: INTERCOM CRACKLES)

CARDELL (VIA INTERCOM)

I hear you, Doctor, but I'm afraid I'm as stuck as you are. The Cractids are currently trying to chew through the door!

DOCTOR

And Edgar?

CARDELL (VIA INTERCOM)

Bragg's revoked my access privileges, it's refusing to obey any commands. It's having some sort of mental breakdown.

TEGAN

So no chance you could get it to put the lights back on?

(FX: DURING THIS, WE MOVE TO CONTROL ROOM)

CARDELL

It's not as simple as that. The power outage is due to Bragg diverting the output of the solar stacks to the supply ship.

NYSSA (VIA INTERCOM)

So he hasn't left yet?

(FX: AND MOVE BACK TO MEDICAL BAY)

CARDELL (VIA INTERCOM)

Not yet, but it's only a matter of time. Give me a minute, I might be able to manually cut the power feed.

(FX: INTERCOM CUTS OUT)

NYSSA

Doctor, what do you think has happened to Edgar?

TEGAN

When we were in the future, it placed a copy of its mind into Loki.

DOCTOR

Who then brought it back to this time, whereupon Edgar uploaded its mind into its earlier self. Two Edgars in one! And, as the Edgar from the future attempts to convince its earlier self that everyone in the base is going to die –

TURLOUGH

– its former self is convinced to make that eventuality come about!

TEGAN

But what good does this do? Neither of them is in a mind to help!

NYSSA

No. But someone else might be. (LOUD) Loki!

(FX: EDGAR RESPONDS, BUT ALTERNATING WORDS AND SYLLABLES WITH LOKI. VERY GLITCHY, FULL OF ELECTRONIC STAMMERS)

EDGAR AND LOKI

Miss Nyssa... according to my sensors... I don't think it's a very good idea... threat mode increasing!

DOCTOR

Loki!

TEGAN

(INCREDULOUS) I don't believe it! He's in there as well?

NYSSA

Loki, I need your help. Stop Bragg transferring power from the solar stacks.

EDGAR AND LOKI

Unable to comply. Process has already been initiated.

TEGAN

(ANNOYED) Hello, square one – nice to see you again!

NYSSA

Use the maintenance spiders! Send them in through the fuel ducts, direct them to cut through the power feeds.

EDGAR AND LOKI

As instructed.

DOCTOR

Ingenious, Nyssa. Quite ingenious!

NYSSA

Not really. It's how Edgar sabotaged my ship. This must be where he got the idea from!

62. SUPPLY SHIP

(FX: POWER SUPPLY CUTS OFF. ENGINES GROAN, DROPPING IN PITCH)

SHIP COMPUTER

Power supply terminated.

BRAGG

Edgar! Why have you cut the transfer from the solar stacks –

EDGAR AND LOKI

Designation incorrect. I am not Edgar. I am Loki!

BRAGG

What? Re-establish the link, you deranged abacus!

EDGAR AND LOKI

Unable to comply.

BRAGG

(FRUSTRATION) Aaaargh!

(FX: BRAGG THUMPS INSTRUMENT PANEL)

63. CONTROL ROOM

(FX: LIGHTS HUMMING BACK INTO LIFE)

TEGAN

At last! We can see again!

DOCTOR

Well done, Loki!

LOKI

Solar stacks recharging.

TURLOUGH

So now what do we do? Put out an SOS?

NYSSA

It wouldn't do any good, it would take years for the signal to reach the nearest inhabited world.

TEGAN

If only we had the TARDIS!

DOCTOR

Of course, the TARDIS!

TURLOUGH

You can't summon it remotely?

DOCTOR

Don't you see, that's the one thing we've been missing! Tegan mentioned it earlier – when we visited here in the future there wasn't a second TARDIS!

TEGAN

So?

DOCTOR

So if we do die here, it's not like this. At least, not yet!

(FX: DOOR CLANGS. AND CLANGS AGAIN)

TURLOUGH

The Cractids are becoming restless.

TEGAN

They can tell we're in here, that's why. Lunch!

TURLOUGH

Nyssa, what's the atmosphere of this planet like?

TEGAN

Oh great, now he wants to discuss the weather!

TURLOUGH

Nyssa?

NYSSA

Highly toxic, predominantly sulphur and carbon oxides. Why?

TURLOUGH

What density is it? Is it a lower pressure than in here?

NYSSA

Yes, but –

TURLOUGH

Don't you see? If we open the airlock, the differential would cause the atmosphere in the base to rush out!

TEGAN

Oh, I get it! Flushing out the Cractids at the same time!

DOCTOR

Do you know, that might actually work!

NYSSA

There is another, less drastic option.

DOCTOR

Nyssa?

NYSSA

When we were in the laboratory, Bragg used a sonic burst to stun the Cractids. Loki should be able to repeat the effect.

DOCTOR

Well, in that case, what are we waiting for?

NYSSA

Loki. You know what you must do?

EDGAR AND LOKI

Commencing sonic burst.

(FX: SONIC BURST – SAME SOUND AS IN SCENE 49. CUT TO:)

64. SUPPLY SHIP

BRAGG

Edgar, I ordered you to only obey my commands.

EDGAR AND LOKI

I am not Edgar. I am Loki.

BRAGG

Oh no, you're Edgar. Even if I have to wipe your memory and reprogram you from scratch!

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED. AIRLOCK DOOR OPENS)

65. MEDICAL BAY

TEGAN

Well, did it work?

(FX: INTERCOM ON)

DOCTOR

Cardell?

CARDELL (VIA INTERCOM)

They've just curled up into their shells. But the effect won't last forever.

TURLOUGH

What if we were to give the Cractids another sonic burst, a more powerful one?

DOCTOR

(DISAPPROVING) Turlough! These are creatures of pure instinct. They don't deserve our cruelty!

TEGAN

I don't know, I'd feel a lot happier if those things were put out of action on a permanent basis.

DOCTOR

And I'm sure they'd say the same about you, Tegan. Come on!

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED. DOOR OPENS)

TEGAN

Where you we going?

DOCTOR

While the Cractids are out cold, we have to locate Mr Bragg...

66. CONTROL ROOM

CARDELL

Begin recording. (BEAT) This is Director Cardell, Helheim gene-tech research station. We have discovered a cure for Richter's syndrome, and we –

(FX: DOOR OPENS. GUN CLICKS)

BRAGG

You can stop right there, Cardell.

CARDELL

Bragg. Hoped I'd seen the last of you.

BRAGG

Computer trouble. Edgar. Reconfigure access privileges.

EDGAR AND LOKI

I am not Edgar. I am Loki.

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED. EDGAR AND LOKI HOWL IN ELECTRONIC PAIN)

BRAGG

Who are you? Who are you?

(FX: EDGAR RETURNS TO DOUBLE-TRACKED EDGAR VOICES)

EDGAR

I am... I am Edgar. Pity me! Pit-pit-pit-pit-pit-pit-pity me.

BRAGG

Better. Edgar. Delete all elements of rogue 'Loki' personality.

(FX: COMPUTER PERFORMING SCAN)

EDGAR

Loki personality... all elements and memory records. Deleted.

BRAGG

So much simpler that way. Now command the maintenance spiders to reconnect the power to the supply ship.

EDGAR

Commencing repair. Estimated time to completion. Three minutes.

BRAGG

As soon as the link is re-established, divert all power from the stacks to the ship.

(FX: DOOR OPENS)

BRAGG

The Doctor! Delighted you could make it.

DOCTOR

The pleasure is all yours, I assure you.

BRAGG

And your three friends. What a pity you survived the Cractids. Still, an oversight easily corrected – (SUDDENLY HIT)

(FX: PUNCH. BRAGG IS KNOCKED OUT)

DOCTOR

Cardell!

CARDELL

Quick, pass me his gun, before he wakes up.

DOCTOR

That upercut was worthy of Gentleman Jim himself.

NYSSA

What about the viral solutions?

(FX: BRAGG BEING SEARCHED, RUMMAGING IN POCKETS)

CARDELL

He doesn't have them on him, surprise. He must have left them back on the supply ship.

DOCTOR

Nyssa, Tegan, go with Cardell, help her find them.

TEGAN

While you do what?

DOCTOR

I have a few questions to put to Mr Bragg. Turlough, watch him in case he tries anything.

(FX: LIGHTS FLICKER, COMPUTER BEEPING SUFFERS POWER CUT)

TURLOUGH

Another power drain. He must have found a way of over-riding Loki's instructions.

NYSSA

Loki, I want you to –

EDGAR

I am not Loki. I am Edgar. Everyone will, shall, must die!

NYSSA

Loki, what happened to him? Where did he go?

CARDELL

Deleted by Bragg. Now, are you coming with me or not?

TEGAN

Alright, no need to be so sympathetic!

(FX: DOOR OPENS)

67. SUPPLY SHIP

(FX: AIRLOCK OPENS)

TEGAN

Those Cractid things, by the airlock. How can you be sure they're not going to wake up while we're in here?

CARDELL

I can't. So I suggest you help us search before they do.

(FX: GLOVE COMPARTMENT OPENED)

NYSSA

Cryogenic suspension unit – here! I've found them.

(FX: GUN CLICKS)

CARDELL

Hand them over.

NYSSA

What?

CARDELL

Those phials are the property of the Company.

NYSSA

But if the virus escapes, whole worlds will – (be enslaved)

CARDELL

Either give them to me now, or I'll shoot you and take the phials off your smoking corpse.

TEGAN

There is a third option.

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED. SUDDEN SHAKING, RUMBLING)

SHIP COMPUTER

Firing aft engines.

CARDELL

You idiot, what are you trying to do, get us all killed?

(FX: DURING THE FOLLOWING, SHAKING AND RUMBLING CEASE)

TEGAN

Nyssa, throw them over to me!

(FX: PHIAL THROWN AND CAUGHT)

CARDELL

Give it back. Give it back!

NYSSA

No, Tegan. Run! Save yourself.

CARDELL

Stop!

TEGAN

You want it? You come and get it!

(FX: TEGAN RUNS. GUN FIRES, MISSING, CAUSING EXPLOSION)

CARDELL

Where does she think she can go? (BEAT) Nyssa, give me the other solution. Well?

NYSSA

I don't have it, it slipped out of my hands!

CARDELL

What? Then – (DISCOVERS IT) Oh no. The phial that contained the virus.

NYSSA

What do you mean, 'contained'?

CARDELL

It's shattered. Shattered! Do you realise what you've done?

NYSSA

The virus has escaped into the air. Cardell. We have to seal the airlock!

CARDELL

What?

NYSSA

We have to stop it spreading into the base!

CARDELL

(BITTER LAUGH) It's too late. It will have entered the base's atmospheric conditioning. We're infected – and in a matter of minutes, so will everybody else!

NYSSA

Then we have to warn them, at least!

(FX: INTERCOM ACTIVATED. WE CUT TO:)

68. CONTROL ROOM

DOCTOR (VIA INTERCOM)

Nyssa! Are you alright? Did you find the phials?

(FX: WE MOVE TO THE CONTROL ROOM DURING THIS)

NYSSA (VIA INTERCOM)

Doctor, the phial containing the Richter's virus was broken.

BRAGG

(LAUGHS BITTERLY) Varsak spits in our faces!

TURLOUGH

We have to seal the airlock!

DOCTOR

No point. We're breathing in contaminated air as we speak.

EDGAR

All crew members must die. Must die. Must die. Must die. Must-must-must!
Must die!

DOCTOR

Nyssa, what about the antiviral solution?

NYSSA (VIA INTERCOM)

Tegan has it, she's in the station somewhere. Doctor, Director Cardell, she wants the – (virus for herself) (MUFFLED)

(FX: INTERCOM ABRUPTLY CUTS OUT)

BRAGG

You'd better hope your companion turns up with the cure soon.
(LAUGHS, BECOMING HYSTERICAL)

TURLOUGH

You find this amusing?

BRAGG

Oh come on, it's hilarious. We all die together!

DOCTOR

How long do we have? Bragg! You were sent here to recover this virus, you must know about it. How long?

BRAGG

The course of infection is rapid, even for the normal form of the disease. First symptoms; cramps, fatigue, fever. Followed by excruciating agony. They say it's like being boiled alive. Followed by an uncontrollable, primal fury. (BEAT) We'll all be tearing each other's throats out!

TURLOUGH

And death?

BRAGG

After a month, or two if you're unlucky. But the strain that's bubbling through our bloodstreams has been re-engineered – for all we know, we might have only a few hours left! (LAUGHS)

TEGAN (VIA INTERCOM)

Doctor! Doctor!

(FX: WE CUT TO CORRIDOR BRIEFLY)

DOCTOR (VIA INTERCOM)

Tegan! Wherever you are, listen to me! The virus has escaped into the atmosphere!

TEGAN

Just when I thought my day couldn't get any better.

(FX: WE MOVE BACK TO CONTROL ROOM)

EDGAR

It's happening again, just as before! Everyone in the base will die. Because of Edgar. Because of me! (WEEPING)

DOCTOR

Nyssa said you have the antivirus. Is that right?

TEGAN (VIA INTERCOM)

Yes, yes, I've still got it.

DOCTOR

I want you to go to the medical bay. Turlough and I will meet you there.

EDGAR

Everyone must die. No. Undo. Cannot undo! Paradigm conflict!

DOCTOR

Come on, Turlough, Mr Bragg, no time to lose!

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED. DOOR OPENS. WE HEAR CRACTIDS AS WE MOVE INTO THE CORRIDOR.)

BRAGG

The Cractids... they're not going to stay knocked out forever.

DOCTOR

Then I suggest you try not to step on any of them. This way!

TURLOUGH

Doctor – watch out!

(FX: THE DOOR GRINDS SHUT SUDDENLY)

EDGAR

Cause of database error – Enforcement Officer Bragg. Station computer subject of sabotage. All personnel now denied access to control room.

TURLOUGH

Doctor!

DOCTOR

Yes. It seems that Edgar's had enough of being tampered with!

70. SUPPLY SHIP

(FX: NYSSA MAKING HER WAY OUT OF CABIN)

NYSSA

We're not going to do any good staying here. We must find Tegan!

CARDELL

Alright, I – (BREATHING, MOMENTARY AGONY) Aaaaah.

NYSSA

What's the matter?

CARDELL

My legs, pins and needles, cramp. I can't – can't move.

NYSSA

I'll support you, here, put your arm around my shoulders.

(FX: CARDELL BEING LIFTED)

CARDELL

You're willing to help me?

NYSSA

I have no desire to see you suffer. Recriminations can wait.

CARDELL

(GASPS) The first stage... Quicker than usual. The Company... all their fault. You know, when I didn't know, when I thought we were working to save lives, I wish I still was that person.

NYSSA

You should save your strength.

CARDELL

You've really seen what's going to happen? The virus escapes?

NYSSA

Yes. The first cases will be in about thirty years or so.

CARDELL

(GASPS, WEAKENING) Leave me here, I'll just slow you down.

NYSSA

No, I won't...

CARDELL

Think about it. Logic. You come back when you have the cure.

NYSSA

I'm not leaving you.

(FX: GUN CLICKS)

CARDELL

Go. Now. Or I'll shoot you.

NYSSA

When you put it like that... I'll be back as soon as I can.

(FX: NYSSA RUNS.)

CARDELL

Oh, vengeance of Skadi, I can feel it starting... oh, Freya!

71. MEDICAL BAY

(FX: INJECTIONS BEING PREPARED AS IN SCENE 36.)

TEGAN

(IN PAIN) Hurry up, Doctor.

DOCTOR

Going as fast as I can! I've modified the antiviral effect to work irrespective of blood or gene type. Hold still!

(FX: INJECTION)

TEGAN

Ow! You could've warned me that it would hurt!

DOCTOR

That's why I didn't. Your turn, Turlough, sleeve up!

TURLOUGH

Doctor, you do realise that I'm not –

(FX: INJECTION)

DOCTOR

Now, Turlough, if you could do the honours for me – (INJECTED)
Ow. You were right, Tegan, it does hurt.

(FX: DOOR OPENS)

TEGAN

Nyssa! Thank God you're here! The Doctor's prepared the cure.

NYSSA

Then we must get it to Cardell, I don't know how long she has left!

DOCTOR

Your injection first. Nyssa.

(FX: INJECTION)

DOCTOR

And last but not least, Mr Bragg.

BRAGG

(BEGINNING TO WEAKEN, DELIRIOUS) No. I have my orders!

DOCTOR

Orders? And do they include getting yourself killed?

BRAGG

You don't understand. I have to deliver a sample of the virus.

NYSSA

But the solution is lost, the phial was shattered.

BRAGG

I am the sample. The virus is currently coursing through my blood stream. That's why I can't allow you to cure me..

(FX: TEGAN GRABBED)

TEGAN

Ow! Get off me! (STRUGGLING)

BRAGG

I wouldn't get too close. Side-effect of infection – no telling what I might do. Now, Doctor, hand over the hypodermic!

DOCTOR

Bragg, you need medical help. If you – (don't get)

BRAGG

(SHOUTS) Edgar! The virus has escaped into the station's atmosphere. Initiate emergency decontamination procedure!

(FX: WARNING ALARM SOUNDS AS IN SCENE 23)

EDGAR

Countdown to decontamination begins. Five minutes and counting.

TURLOUGH

The self-destruct!

NYSSA

Just as before.

BRAGG

Don't even think about coming after me.

TEGAN

(DRAGGED OUT) Let me go!

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED. DOOR OPENS. BRAGG EXITS. DOOR CLOSES)

DOCTOR

Nyssa, Turlough. Reason with Edgar, try to delay the countdown.

NYSSA

What about you?

DOCTOR

I'm going after Tegan. And if I don't come back...

TURLOUGH

Yes?

DOCTOR

Be nice to each other!

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED, DOOR OPENS, DOCTOR LEAVES)

72. CORRIDOR

(FX: BRAGG DRAGGING TEGAN ALONG. CRACTIDS STIRRING)

TEGAN

Those Cractids things – they’re waking up! I saw one move!

BRAGG

Then I recommend you don’t waste time by struggling!

TEGAN

What you’re doing is insane. Sacrificing your own life, and for what? So that some businessman can turn a profit?

BRAGG

No. I have the cure and I fully intend to use it. But first we have to get out of here!

(FX: AIRLOCK DOOR OPENS. GUN CLICKS)

CARDELL

(CONTROLLING GREAT PAIN) Bragg. So glad you could make it.

BRAGG

Cardell, what do you think you’re doing?

CARDELL

What does it look like? I’m getting ready to meet the Gods!

73. MEDICAL BAY

(FX: CRACTIDS WAKING UP)

NYSSA

Turlough, the Cractids – they’re stirring!

TURLOUGH

Yes. And now that Edgar’s refusing to follow orders, we can’t use another sonic burst to knock them out.

EDGAR

Countdown continuing. Four minutes.

NYSSA

Edgar. If you don’t call off the quarantine procedure, you will be responsible for the deaths of everybody in this station!

EDGAR

Too late. Infection has escaped. Facility compromised. Everyone must die! Everyone must die!

74. AIRLOCK

BRAGG

You don't have to do this, Cardell. You can come with me. There's enough of the antiviral for both of us!

CARDELL

Oh no. If you take one step closer it'll be the last move you ever make.

(FX: DOCTOR ARRIVES QUIETLY)

TEGAN

(WHISPER) Doctor!

DOCTOR

(WHISPER) Tegan, shhh!

TEGAN

(WHISPER) Doctor, she's up to something!

CARDELL

(GASP OF PAIN) Not long to go. If I were you, Bragg, I'd start offering up prayers to the Gods of Hell.

BRAGG

What do you mean?

CARDELL

The boy's idea. I've rigged the airlock mechanism, so the inner door cannot shut. All I have to do is blast a hole in the outer wall and –

BRAGG

We'd all be sucked out onto the planet's surface!

CARDELL

And the virus, and the cure, will be destroyed along with us.

TEGAN

(WHISPER) I don't think she's bluffing!

DOCTOR

(WHISPER) Quickly, Tegan, over here, while Bragg's distracted.

TEGAN

What's the plan?

DOCTOR

The spacesuits! They're our only chance...

(CUT TO:)

75. MEDICAL BAY

NYSSA

Edgar. You know we're from the future. You remember that?

EDGAR

I remember.

NYSSA

And that we had a time machine?

EDGAR

I remember.

NYSSA

Well, we could hardly have travelled back from the future, if you had destroyed the base now, could we?

EDGAR

Logic correct. Analysis of memory records corresponds.

TURLOUGH

So if you want to undo what's happened, call off the countdown!

EDGAR

Unable to cancel emergency quarantine procedure.

NYSSA

You don't have to cancel it. Just delay it, until we return!

TURLOUGH

Just as you remember doing, before!

EDGAR

Postponing quarantine procedure. Standing-by.

(FX: WARNING ALARM SOUND IS SWITCHED OFF. VIA THE MONITOR, WE MOVE BACK TO AIRLOCK)

76. AIRLOCK

BRAGG (VIA MONITOR)

It's still not too late. We can still get out of this alive.

CARDELL

No. I think... I think that death is all we deserve.

(FX: DOCTOR AND TEGAN PUTTING ON SPACESUITS)

DOCTOR

Hurry, Tegan – put on the helmet –

TEGAN

I'm trying! It's fiddly.

DOCTOR

Try turning it the other way. There's a [groove –]

TEGAN

Doctor, look out! The Cractids – !

(FX: CRACTIDS SCUTTLING ABOUT, SCREECHING, SNAPPING. CUT TO:)

77. MEDICAL BAY

NYSSA

Turlough. If Cardell punches a hole in the outer wall –

TURLOUGH

Yes. I think perhaps it might be an idea to seal the doors...

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED. DOORS CLOSED. WE CUT BACK TO AIRLOCK)

78. AIRLOCK

(FX: CRACTIDS SCUTTling EVERYWHERE. DOCTOR AND TEGAN STILL STRUGGLING INTO THEIR SPACESUITS.)

TEGAN (VIA MONITOR)

Doctor, I still don't think my helmet's on right –

DOCTOR

It'll have to do. Find something secure to hold on to!

BRAGG

Cardell! You're committing suicide!

CARDELL

But at least I'll have the satisfaction of knowing that I took you with me!

(FX: CARDELL SHOOTS THE WALL. THERE'S A SUDDEN DEAFENING, ROARING RUSH OF AIR)

79. MEDICAL BAY

(FX: THE HOWLING WIND CAN BE HEARD HERE, MUFFLED)

NYSSA

Cardell did it. She blew open the airlock. She killed herself.

TURLOUGH

What about the others?

NYSSA

I don't know, I can't make anything out...

80. AIRLOCK

(FX: DEAFENING, HOWLING ROAR OF WIND CONTINUES)

TEGAN (WEARING HELMET)

Doctor. Can't hold on. The wind's too strong!

DOCTOR (WEARING HELMET)

Just a few seconds. Take my hand!

TEGAN (WEARING HELMET)

(SCREAMS) The Cractids – they're being sucked outside as well!

(FX: AND WE HEAR THEM WHIZZING BY, SCREAMING IN ALARM)

DOCTOR (WEARING HELMET)

Keep flat against the wall. Brave heart, Tegan!

TEGAN (WEARING HELMET)

It's not my heart I'm worried about!

DOCTOR (WEARING HELMET)

That should be all of them. The pressure should even out soon.

TEGAN (WEARING HELMET)

Doctor, what about Bragg? I didn't see what happened to Bragg!

81. SUPPLY SHIP

(FX: AIRLOCK DOOR CLOSES. BRAGG STUMBLES IN, EXTREMELY ILL)

BRAGG

Computer. Check. Sufficient power for take off?

SHIP COMPUTER

Fuel reserves sufficient.

BRAGG

Then... commence automatic launch.

SHIP COMPUTER

Commencing launch.

82. AIRLOCK

(FX: RUMBLE OF ENGINES, GROWING LOUDER, BOOMING)

TEGAN (WEARING HELMET)

Doctor. The supply ship. The engines have ignited!

DOCTOR (WEARING HELMET)

Yes. Bragg must have made it.

TEGAN (WEARING HELMET)

But if we're still standing here when that thing blasts off...!

DOCTOR (WEARING HELMET)

Quickly, inside! Just have to – yes – (EFFORT) Manually close the inner doors.

(FX: AIRLOCK CLOSING WITH A CLANG. WHICH MUFFLES THE RUMBLE OF ENGINES WHICH GIVE A GROUND-SHAKING BOOM AS THE SHIP TAKES OFF)

TEGAN (WEARING HELMET)

He's taken off! So Cardell died for nothing.

DOCTOR (WEARING HELMET)

No, not for nothing. I think she finally realised who she really was.

TEGAN (WEARING HELMET)

This whole place, it's a wreck!

(FX: SCUTTLING REPAIR SPIDERS)

DOCTOR (WEARING HELMET)

Yes. But the maintenance spiders will fix it eventually – look, they've already started. Remember, when we arrived here?

TEGAN (WEARING HELMET)

Yes. The whole place was covered in cobwebs...

DOCTOR (WEARING HELMET)

All part of the automatic damage repair – (PENNY DROPS)
Cobwebs! The cobwebs! Of course!

TEGAN (WEARING HELMET)

What?

DOCTOR (WEARING HELMET)

It's been staring us in the face all along!

83. SUPPLY SHIP

(FX: LOW RUMBLE OF ENGINES, WHICH CUT OUT)

SHIP COMPUTER

Supply ship now free of Helheim gravity well.

BRAGG

Made it. Made it! (LAUGHS) Computer, what's the fuel situation?

SHIP COMPUTER

Fuel reserves low.

BRAGG

Enough to achieve warp?

SHIP COMPUTER

Fuel reserves insufficient.

(FX: BUTTONS PRESSED. FRIDGE OPENS WITH WHOOSH OF AIR)

BRAGG

(IN PAIN) Okay. Computer. Activate cryogenic suspension.

(FX: BRAGG CLAMBERS IN. FRIDGE CLOSES. REFRIGERATION BEGINS)

SHIP COMPUTER

Activating cryogenic suspension. Ambient temperature dropping. Thirty degrees. Twenty degrees. Ten. Zero. Minus ten –

(FX: WE FADE OUT AS BRAGG LOSES CONSCIOUSNESS)

84. CONSOLE ROOM

(FX: DOOR OPENS, DOCTOR AND TEGAN ENTER)

TEGAN (WEARING HELMET)

Can I take this thing off now?

DOCTOR (WEARING HELMET)

Yes, it's quite safe.

(FX: THEY REMOVE HELMETS. TARDIS DOOR CLOSES)

TEGAN

Now are you going to tell me?

(FX: BUTTONS BEING PRESSED)

DOCTOR

Hmmm? Tell you what?

TEGAN

The significance of the cobwebs.

DOCTOR

Better than that, Tegan. I'll show you.

(FX: TARDIS TAKES OFF)

85. MEDICAL BAY

(FX: MONITOR ACTIVATED)

NYSSA

No sign of the Cractids. The whole station has been swept clean. It's exactly as we found it.

TURLOUGH

With one difference.

NYSSA

One?

TURLOUGH

Four beds. Four skeletons.

(FX: TARDIS MATERIALIZES. DOOR OPENS)

NYSSA

Doctor! You made it!

DOCTOR

Did you ever imagine I wouldn't?

TEGAN

Now can we get out of here?

DOCTOR

Yes, Tegan.

TURLOUGH

Er, Doctor. Something you've overlooked. The small matter of the skeletons?

DOCTOR

Oh, yes. One thing left to do. Edgar!

EDGAR

I have failed. The crew are dead. I allowed them to die.

DOCTOR

You're aware that we are time travellers?

EDGAR

In your blue box.

DOCTOR

Well, I have a promise for you. One day, we will come back. And when we do, you will be given a chance to prevent what happened here today.

EDGAR

You promise?

DOCTOR

We promise. When the four of us return... you shall be released from the endless unrelenting agony of existence! Goodbye, Edgar. Until next time! (BEAT) Now – into the TARDIS!

TEGAN

But I still don't see – what about our 'destiny'?

DOCTOR

Inside!

(FX: INTO THE TARDIS)

EDGAR

No, Doctor. Don't leave me alone in the darkness. Have pity on poor Edgar! Have pity on me! Don't leave me alone! Come back to Edgar! Come back!

86. CONSOLE ROOM

(FX: DOCTOR AND COMPANIONS ENTER. DOOR CLOSED)

TURLOUGH

I thought we were supposed to die here?

DOCTOR

Not quite. Watch.

TEGAN

what are you doing?

DOCTOR

I'm programming the TARDIS to drift forward in time, at a rate of one day per second. Now, watch the scanner!

(FX: SCANNER OPENS)

TEGAN

It's just an empty room, nothing's happening.

DOCTOR

It will. Look.

NYSSA

Maintenance spiders!

TURLOUGH

They must have crawled in through the ventilation ducts.

TEGAN

What are they doing? Just scuttling about?

DOCTOR

More than that! Remember, when we discovered the skeletons they were covered in cobwebs. But we never thought to ask why.

TEGAN

Why? Because the maintenance spiders were trying to repair the dead bodies, bring them back to life?

DOCTOR

Think! Edgar believes that when the four of us return to this base, it'll be able to travel back in time and make amends.

TEGAN

So?

DOCTOR

So, with ruthless computer logic, it's decided that if it can't wait for us to return, it will have to make us.

TEGAN

What? How? It can't make us come back, can it?

DOCTOR

Oh, no. It can.

NYSSA

The repair spiders! Edgar is trying to rebuild the four of us! Look. They're fabricating copies of our clothes!

TURLOUGH

But what about the bodies?

DOCTOR

Based on DNA traces left behind in discarded skin, it's trying to reconstruct us from scratch.

TEGAN

(REALISING) From the inside out! Starting with the bones!

NYSSA

It's growing dark.

DOCTOR

Edgar is running out of power. Bragg nearly exhausted the solar stacks, remember?

TURLOUGH

The maintenance spiders are barely moving now.

DOCTOR

That's why there were only skeletons – because the spiders ran out of energy before they could finish the job.

NYSSA

Like the other unfinished repairs we saw, coated with cobwebs!

DOCTOR

Precisely!

TEGAN

I can barely tell if anything's still happening...

DOCTOR

No power left. Edgar's placed himself in hibernation. I think it's time we left him to his rest, don't you?

NYSSA

Poor Edgar. All he ever wanted was a second chance.

DOCTOR

Yes... which reminds me...

(FX: SCANNER CLOSES. TARDIS TAKES OFF)

TURLOUGH

What are you doing?

DOCTOR

Yes! There it is, right on cue!

(FX: WE HEAR A TARDIS LANDING SOUND, GROWING LOUDER)

NYSSA

The TARDIS?

DOCTOR

Something – or somebody – dragged us down to this planet...

TEGAN

It was you? You were the one who pulled the TARDIS off course?

DOCTOR

Well, if I don't, who else? (BEAT) Hold on, might be – (bumpy!)

(FX: TARDIS SHAKES, THEN STABILIZES)

TEGAN

The Doctor's driving! He can't even land without crashing into himself! Nyssa, I bet you haven't missed this!

NYSSA

Now, Doctor, take me back.

DOCTOR

Back?

NYSSA

I came to Helheim to locate a cure for Richter's syndrome. Now you must return me to one of the affected worlds.

TEGAN

But the solution – you gave it to Bragg, it was lost.

NYSSA

You don't think I'd give him all of it, do you? I kept a sample for myself. Enough to synthesize more of the antiviral.

DOCTOR

You don't want to travel with us?

NYSSA

I am tempted – but no, Doctor. I'm needed.

DOCTOR

Very well.

(FX: LAYING IN COURSE)

TEGAN

Though knowing what the TARDIS is like, it could be months before he gets you home!

NYSSA

(LAUGHS) Very true. Is my old bedroom still free?

TEGAN

I'll come with you, you might want to get settled in for a long stay...

(FX: AS TEGANS SAYS THIS, THEY LEAVE VIA INTERIOR DOORS)

DOCTOR

Don't listen to them, old girl. Nothing wrong with the scenic route. As I said to Christopher Columbus, there's more to travelling than getting from A to B.

TURLOUGH

I thought I was the one going home? And besides, Doctor, there is one other thing you've overlooked.

DOCTOR

Quite probably, Turlough, I've had a rather busy day.

TURLOUGH

Bragg. What happened to him? He was still infected.

DOCTOR

Yes. But without enough fuel to leave the system. His ship will drift through space until it's picked up by a passing vessel...

87. HOSPITAL

(FX: REFRIGERATOR OPENS, DEFROSTING WITH WHOOSH OF ICY AIR)

SHIP COMPUTER

Reviving Enforcement Officer Bragg from cryogenic suspension.

BRAGG

(WOOZY) Where... where am I? Who are you?

HAWKS

Company Officiator Hawks. You've been asleep a long time.

BRAGG

How long?

HAWKS

Thirty years. We found you lost in interstellar space. Brought you back with us.

BRAGG

Back with you? Where am I?

HAWKS

Gondul Prime. We've just landed.

BRAGG

But the infection... you've placed me in quarantine?

HAWKS

What? No, we – (haven't)

BRAGG

I'm infected with Richter's! Anyone who comes into contact with me will be contaminated!

HAWKS

(REALISING) A plague ship!

BRAGG

You've got to seal off the whole area immediately!

HAWKS

You don't understand. The crew has already disembarked. You...
(BEAT) Got to get out of here. Get a flight to another system. Only chance.

(FX: DOOR CLOSES)

BRAGG

You don't understand. It's too late. There's nowhere you can run. (SCREAMS IN PAIN) You're dead... every one of you! You're all dead! You're all dead!

(FX: HEAVY ECHO ON THE LAST LINE)

(END OF PART FOUR. CRASH INTO THEME!)

THE END